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ACADEMICS UNITE TO SAVE MUSEUMS

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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SKATE EXPECTATIONS

The new theatre chaplain got his skates on for his first official job to meet performers of Snow White on Ice at the Marlowe Arena. Mark Ball, the 37-year-old priest in charge of the city centre parishes, took to the rink to meet entertainers from the Russian Ice Stars, who put on the show.

The Rev Ball said: "I am here to show the Church cares about the life of the theatre and cares for the wellbeing of those who give themselves in the sharing of their talents, gifts and skills."

EXCLUSIVE

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

THE district's leading archaeologist has vowed to bring together academics, universities and schools in an effort to save the district's museums from council cutbacks.

Dr Paul Bennett, director of Canterbury Archaeological Trust, said he aimed to fight the "undemocratic" and "draconian" decision to close the Roman Museum and the Westgate Towers, and change the use of the Herne Bay Museum.

Dr Bennett said: "Canterbury was more than just a little town in Roman times, it was the gateway to the province of Britannia. To lose this museum would be a tragedy, just for reasons of keeping the books balanced.

"There must be alternatives. We can make it stand on its own using volunteers and with the combined support of universities, schools and interested parties.

"We can run it until such time as the city can take it back. Once you've destroyed it, you'll never put it back together.

"I applaud the council for going out to consultation, but it has completely disregarded the findings. One thing that was clear was people wanted to retain the museums. An undemocratic decision to close them nonetheless is nothing short of draconian.

"We will be putting out a petition, we will be lobbying councillors, we will be involving national, regional and local figures, but the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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LETHAL: Councillors say Kent County Council is not doing enough to fix the district's pothole problem

'Pouring hot tar in potholes is just not good enough'

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

POTHOLEs are "atrocious" and the "worst seen" according to city councillors speaking at a meeting last week.

During discussion at the council's executive meeting on Thursday, January 21, the council leader and the head of the opposition party both agreed the area's roads need to be fixed quickly.

Liberal democrat councillor Alex Perkins said: "Due to a lack of investment Kent County Council has failed to solve the pothole problem which is the worst it has ever been."

Atrocious

"All the workers have been doing, from what I have seen, is pouring hot tar in the holes and patting it with a spade. It is just not good enough."

Conservative councillor John Gilbey agreed. He said: "The roads are atrocious, and they are certainly the worst I have seen them in my time here."

Councillor Gilbey said he had brought the matter up with the county council at a meeting that week.

Last week alone people reported more than 30 potholes in the Canterbury district on website www.fillthathole.co.uk

Particularly bad specimens include

more than 20 on Thornden Wood Road in Greenhill where some holes were reported as being 15cm deep and a huge half-metre pit in Cromwell Road, Whitstable, said to be 15cm deep.

Chestfield and Swalecliffe had most reports for the area, including a 10cm deep dip on South Street which is 40cm wide.

Website www.fixmystreet.co.uk also lists large number of potholes in the area.

Yourcanterbury asked Kent County Council how many potholes had been reported in the district since December 1 which had not yet been fixed, but they were unable to respond before we went to press.

Kent County Council were also unable to provide data on how many people have claimed for compensation after hitting a pothole and how much investment there had been in road-surface infrastructure in the area.

The county council has promised to spend at least £1 million extra on fixing potholes this year.

This comes on top of the annual £3m budget and an extra £576,000 Kent Highway Services set aside to deal with this year's problem.

To report a pothole or claim compensation for financial loss incurred as a result of the road surface go to Kent County Council's website: www.kent.gov.uk.

'Don't accuse us, come and join us'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

most important thing is we need to have meetings with the people who made these decisions to look at alternatives to closure."

Council leader Cllr John Gilbey said: "We can meet Dr Bennett any time. All we are saying is the saving has to be made.

"We are willing, if something is proposed that is workable, to keep the Roman Museum open. If the budget is met and the museum is still open, good.

"So much work has gone into this. We are saying to people: don't accuse us, come and join us, help us. There are things still to be decided."

Heckles

The council's executive voted unanimously, amid heckles from the public, to go ahead with the budget cuts at a meeting on Thursday, last week.

Councillors met with cries of: "Shame on you", "Rubbish" and "We'll fight you" when they tried to explain their decisions.

Ten people spoke against changes to services, most of whom objected to the Westgate Hall's proposed closure and demolition and the restructuring of the museum service.

A petition with 1,700 signatures has been presented to try to save the Westgate Hall.

During the meeting, Cllr Peter Lee said: "The council is in an unenviable position and we have gone through this process systematically.

"There have been a lot of things said which we would probably agree with, and if we were in a different position we would not have to do this, but we have been left with no alternative."

Dr Bennett has asked anyone who would like to volunteer their time and expertise to help keep the museums open to email him at paul.bennett@canterburytrust.co.uk.

The final decision on the budget cuts will be made by the full council on Thursday, February 18.

Long wait for homes

IT WOULD take 6.33 years for everybody on the district's housing waiting list to get a place to live, according to homeless charity Shelter.

The amount of time it would take to get accommodation from the local authority is just below the national average of 6.71 years and the Kent average of 7.07 years.

A total of 556 new lettings were made in the Canterbury area last year, and 3,519 households are on the waiting list.

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Shared services given green light by councils

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

A PLAN to share key services, which could save the district millions of pounds, has been given the seal of approval by three of four councils involved.

The shared services initiative could see savings of nearly £7 million shared between Canterbury, Dover, Thanet and Shepway councils, who have agreed to merge some services to cut costs.

All councils involved are to continue with the first stage of the project which will see landlord services, waste and recycling collections dealt with jointly so as to stop costly duplications being made.

Council leader John Gilbey said: "There is a lot of money to be made by sharing. We have got the Government and the opposition very interested in this because this is something they are looking carefully into."

"We firmly believe sharing services with our neighbouring councils is the best way to deliver both the best possible service and achieve significant savings for our residents."

The project is expected to make savings of £3.5 million for the councils over four years, and before any council function goes into the scheme it will have to be shown that a 10 per cent saving can be made by including it.

But Shepway council has decided not to go ahead with the second phase of the scheme.

Chief executive Alistair Stewart said: "We have serious concerns and unless these are satisfactorily addressed we will not be staying in this joint services project."



JOINT INITIATIVE: Councils say they will save millions by sharing services such as waste and recycling collections

Shepway council cited a lack of clarity about set-up costs, unrealistic timescales and confusion over how staff would be picked to run the projects as key concerns.

It was also worried about how much control councillors would have over costs and what services were provided.

Mr Stewart said: "We are also concerned there will be financial disadvantages to councils, like Shepway, which have already started making significant efficiencies and transforming their services.

"However, we are happy for our partners to go

ahead and we would not wish to do anything that would stand in their way."

Canterbury's chief executive said: "We fully respect Shepway's views on this project and the fact that savings may not be as great to them.

"Each council has to do what it feels is right for its residents. We believe this is the right way forward for the Canterbury district and remain fully committed to this project."

The idea will be sent for each council to vote on and the Canterbury district's representatives will have their say on Thursday, February 18.

Boy in trouble over motorbike crash

A BIKER who fell off his motorcycle on a dual carriageway has been charged after it was discovered he was in his early teens.

The boy came off a 750cc motorcycle on the Canterbury-bound slip road onto the A2 at Barham.

The teenager, who fell from the bike at 7.20am on Monday, January 25, only had minor injuries and nobody else was hurt.

A 15-year-old from Aylesham has been charged with having no insurance or license.

Voters unhappy over cold spell road care

MORE than two thirds of people (68 per cent) who voted in an online poll at kentnews.co.uk believe the authorities did not do enough to keep the roads safe during the recent ice and snow.

Just 32 per cent of the 439 people who voted thought the authorities did enough.

Have your say at www.kentnews.co.uk or www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.

In court for begging

A BEGGING charge has been brought against a Canterbury man.

James Love, 25, of Spring Lane, will appear before magistrates on February 5 charged with begging in

Tourism trade to benefit from new coach park

A NEW coach park with better facilities will mean more tourists for Canterbury, according to the council.

The new 40-space St John's coach park next to the River Stour officially opens tomorrow.

It has a new welcome centre with information about things to do in the city, refreshments, new toilets, baby changing rooms and a place to get drinking water.

Canterbury council hopes the improved coach park will encourage more tour companies to visit the city, boosting the vital income generated from visitors.

Caroline Cooper, Canterbury council's tourism manager, said: "We think we have on average 9,000 coaches into the city every year so it is an important market. I am confident with all the work that is going

in that the figure is going to grow."

"The package of activity and promotional activities we are putting together for the group market is really strong now and I do think we are going to see a net benefit."

"The facilities in terms of the welcome centre itself are much improved."

The old coach park at Kingsmead has been closed since August, but the site recently played host to the Marlowe Theatre Arena, a giant big-top style tent in which theatre bosses held the popular pantomime.

Coach parties have been using the new park before the official opening.

Caroline Cooper added: "We are have got an awful lot of positive feedback from the drivers themselves saying they are more willing than ever to return to Canterbury now the facilities are better for them."

Police warn teen driver over antics on village's roads

A BOY-racer has been given a warning by police not to terrorise Littlebourne with his antics.

The 17-year-old boy was reported to police by locals who complained they had seen and heard a car racing around the quiet village.

The villages also said a car engine had repeatedly been revved up, loud music had been played in the car park and litter had been dropped.

Locals complained to PCSO Della Newman, who has recently come from Herne Bay to work in the village.

She said: "Several members of the local community told me about the car that had been spotted on numerous occasions racing round the village. We were given the vehicle index and the driver was identified."

The teenager, who is from Whitstable, has been issued with a warning which means if he is reported causing a nuisance on a road or in a public place again he could have his car confiscated.

Couple walk away after car flips over

A COUPLE had a lucky escape after their car flipped into a ditch near Canterbury.

A man and a woman, both of whom were 23, were helped from a Fiat Punto by emergency services after it ended up on its side in a ditch off Littlebourne Road.

The car overturned in an area known as Pine Wood whilst being driven towards Canterbury at 8pm on Friday, January 22.

The driver and passenger were treated by paramedics for minor scratches.

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Three taken to hospital after collision on A28

TWO young children and a man were injured in a two-car crash between Canterbury and Ashford.

The smash was on the A28 just after 7am on Wednesday, January 20.

The children had head injuries that are not thought to be serious, and the man, in his forties, had chest and neck injuries. All three were taken to the William Harvey hospital in Ashford.

Leap to aid of homeless

A HOMELESS charity wants thrill-seekers to take part in a 100ft abseil.

Porchlight, which works with people with housing issues in the Canterbury area and across Kent, is organising the descent at Fremlin Walk in Maidstone on March 27.

For more details call 01227 760 078, email getinvolved@porchlight.org.uk or go to www.porchlight.org.uk

Advice for foster carers

A FOSTERING event is being held for people interested in becoming carers.

Kent County Council's fostering service is hosting an information evening at Whitstable Community College at 7pm on Tuesday, February 2. There will be a presentation, and the chance to speak to fostering service staff and people who are carers.

Murder for good cause

A MURDER mystery evening will take place in Herne Bay next week.

The event at the Little Theatre's green room at 7.30pm on Saturday, aims to raise money for an air conditioning system.

For £8 per head, guests can enjoy a three-course meal, watch the play, and try to solve the mystery. For more details call Sharon on 07720 120 675.

Homes opposed online

A FACEBOOK group has been set up to oppose the idea of building new houses on farmland south of Canterbury.

The 'Save Our Farmland Canterbury' group has 35 members so far, including a Canterbury and Whitstable parliamentary candidate and a city councillor and a representative from the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

City 'critical foothold of Christianity'

EXCLUSIVE

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

CANTERBURY'S new bishop is committed to social justice and believes the city is still a critical part of Christianity in the country.

Bishop Trevor Willmott will officially begin as the Bishop of Dover and Bishop of Canterbury on February 6.

He acts on behalf of the busy archbishop in the diocese of Canterbury which covers the area from Maidstone out to the east coast.

The bishop has already faced up to some of the problems of the modern church. He said: "The biggest challenge facing Christianity would have to be the challenge of how we become relevant to people's lives, and to people's hopes, and to people's ambitions."

Although looking forward to learning about the church in the area and overseeing the parishes, our new bishop believes helping others is extremely important.

He said: "The most important aspect of Christianity is having a personal faith.

"That would be faith which both strengthens the individual, but then strengthens the indi-

vidual to serve the needs of others. I have particular interests in rural affairs, in local leadership and in growth, and in those who, for whatever reason, find themselves on the margins of our society.

"I have a great interest, for example, in how we care for homeless people and for people in prison.

"Before I even came here I was a founding trustee for Emmaus in Hampshire, which is a worldwide process for caring for and helping to reintegrate homeless people into society. I intend to continue that."

The bishop believes Canterbury is still critical for Christianity in the country.

He said: "Canterbury is not only an early foothold of Christianity; it is still a critical foothold of the Christian faith and of our communion.

"Here is the original home of our communion



INSPIRATION: Bishop Trevor Willmott

and thank God our Archbishop is here as well."

The keen gardener says Christianity became more important to him as a teenager.

Bishop Trevor said: "I thought I was going to be a lawyer. Then when I was 20 or 21 I suffered a major road accident, which led me to question a lot of things in my life.

"Out of that grew an awareness that ordination and ministry might be the right way forward for me."

The bishop will soon be making visits throughout the area, but one of the best places to find him might be the cricket and rugby fields.

Bishop Trevor said: "I am looking forward to following the cricket more."

"When I lived in Hampshire I tried to support Hampshire, now I am in Kent I have become a passionate supporter of Kent."



Lifeboat rescues fishing boat crew as engines fail

STRANDED fishermen had to be rescued by the Whitstable lifeboat on Thursday after their engines stopped working.

The 22ft boat was drifting among the turbines of the Kentish Flats Wind Farm at 5.30pm, causing the lifeboat to be sent to the rescue for the first time this year.

During the rescue mission, which lasted an hour and a half,

a lifeboat crewman was put aboard the stricken vessel to help retrieve its anchor.

The angling boat was then towed to Herne Bay where the tide meant it could not be moored as usual, so it had to be left outside the harbour.

The three fishermen were put ashore at Neptune Jetty and were met by Herne Bay coastguard.

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HELP NEEDED: Join these volunteers to help with planting and scrub clearance at Hambrook Marshes

Grant to turn marshland into nature reserve

ANCIENT marshland will again become a home for native species thanks to a new grant and dedicated volunteers.

More than £190,000 in grant money will help the Hambrook Marshes become a nature reserve.

The marshes are to the east of Canterbury on the River Stour, upriver from the Westgate Gardens, which was a gravel pit until 1981.

Money has been secured from a fund which helps restore places which used to be aggregate quarries into community areas with biodiversity.

Those running the project want to build a board walk around the reed marshes on the site to encourage wading birds.

Kent Enterprise Trust project manager Becky Richards said: "This is a community conservation project. It is so close to the centre of Canterbury and we want to involve as many people as possible. We want to make it a really good community resource."

"We have got regular volunteer days and we are also running conservation activities for disadvantaged groups in the area, so they can get some hands-on experience and develop their life skills and teamwork, and of

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

course enjoy the outdoors. We are also running some educational activities for schools as well. The end result will be a resource for the whole community to use."

"We hope to put some paths including board walk over the reed marsh so there will be a really nice circular walk around Hambrook Marshes."

"It will be a really nice place for joggers and walkers, but it can also be used for educational purposes and conservation activities."

At the moment volunteers are trimming overgrown hawthorn trees down to scrub so ground-nesting winter wading birds such as snipe, rather than predator birds, can not only feed on the marshes, as they do now, but also breed there.

The board walk will have pond-dipping platforms so budding naturalists can enjoy the wildlife without disturbing it or getting their feet wet.

The next volunteer days are on Saturday, January 30 at the marshes for scrub clearance, and on Saturday, February 6 and 20 for planting basketry willow.

Anyone who would like to attend should meet at Toddlers' Cove car park at 11am – sessions finish at 2pm.

Charity sale to help heart disease fight

A SAVILLE Row suit, cufflinks, jewellery, a television, toys and more will be on sale in Barham this weekend for charity.

The sale is part of a series of fundraising ventures that will culminate in Kelly Hawkes, right, going on a 10-day trek in China to raise money for a charity fighting cardiomyopathy.

The sale will be held in Barham Village Hall on Saturday, January 30 from 10am until noon. As well as the auction there will be a raffle and food and drink will be available.

Fundraisers are expecting local historian David Starkey to attend.



yourcanterbury NEWS IN BRIEF

Free swimming lessons

ASPIRING swimmers over the age of 40 can now benefit from free lessons in the district.

Non-swimmers can now learn throughout February and March thanks to the council and Active Life, which aims to increase water skills and confidence in adults.

Lessons will take place at the Kingsmead pool in Canterbury, Herons pool in Herne Bay and the Whitstable pool for eight weeks from the first week of February.

Over-60s are able to benefit from the government's free swimming initiative and will be able to swim for free in any of these pools.

The lessons are funded by the Amateur Swimming Association and the local NHS trust. Swimming tuition is also available for adults with learning disabilities and those connected to the Porchlight charity.

For more information and to book lessons call Mel Lea on 01227 819 026 or email mel.lea@activelifeltd.co.uk

Plans to expand car park

COMMUTERS in the Whitstable area may benefit from a proposed new car park.

Network Rail has asked for planning permission to increase the number of parking spaces at the station by laying tarmac on redundant land off Railway Avenue.

There would be 76 new bays, and there are plans for new lighting and CCTV cameras.

Dave Ward, Network Rail's route director for Kent, said: "Residents had expressed a desire for the land to be put to better use. Not only will the new car park improve the appearance of the land, it will increase parking capacity."

£12m sewerage project

A MASSIVE storm water tank will help take the pressure off our sewerage system.

The £12million project by Southern Water, will include a 900,000 litre storage tank at the former coach park site in Kingsmead Road, Canterbury and an underground pumping station at Vauxhall Road.

Gary Sayers, senior project engineer, said: "The improvement works are vital to build more capacity into the sewerage network."

The work is being done to improve waste water infrastructure in the city. It is expected to finish in the late summer.

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Nicole opens the book on a life with cancer

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

CANCER battler Nicole Dryburgh says she hopes the sequel to her inspirational first book will give further hope to fellow patients.

The 20-year-old from Whitstable was diagnosed with cancer when she was just 11 and has since suffered a brain haemorrhage and a stroke, leaving her wheelchair-bound, blind and virtually deaf.

But despite her predicament, Nicole has devoted her life to helping others and has so far raised more than £130,000 for charity.

Her first book *The Way I See It* earned her an army of admirers when it was released in 2008, with its sequel, *Talk To The Hand*, covering the hectic months in her life that followed.

Nicole said: "I've only ever had nice comments about *The Way I See It* and I'm really happy people have enjoyed reading it. It's been out for two years now and I still get emails almost every day from someone new who has read it."

"I decided to write the second book because my first kind of ended on a cliffhanger. I was still on chemotherapy at the time and having other health problems, so I wanted people to know I'm still here and fighting."



FIGHTER: Nicole Dryburgh is inspiring many with illness

"So much has happened since my first book came out, so it's a good way to let people know how things have turned out. It's different because I'm not just telling my story, I'm sharing my advice, too."

Nicole was a competition-winning gymnast when, at the age of just 11, an operation revealed a rare type of cancerous tumour close to her spine.

Through radiotherapy it was reduced, but two years later she suffered the brain haemor-

rhage that robbed her of her sight. This was followed by a debilitating stroke that left the youngster confined to a wheelchair, and in late 2007 tumours were discovered behind Nicole's ears that have practically destroyed her hearing.

Yet despite such setbacks Nicole has devoted her life to helping others and is currently working with the Teenage Cancer Trust to try to raise enough money to fund a specialist unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Surrey.

She said: "I enjoy organising events and coming up with different ideas of ways to raise money. I know what these young people are going through, and that spurs me on to raise as much money and awareness as I can."

"I'd also like to write more books in the future, but I'm not too sure at the moment what to write next."

Named Britain's Most Inspiring Fundraiser in 2008, Nicole acts as a glimmer of hope for young and old people alike whose lives are being torn apart by illness.

When asked if she had any advice for such people, she replied: "Yes, just to stay positive and never give up."

"I believe a positive attitude can get you through anything. Obviously it can be hard sometimes, but just look to the future and keep smiling."

Drivers get advice on cutting child deaths

MOTORISTS are to be reschooled in road safety as part of a month-long campaign to reduce the number of child deaths in Kent.

Police will visit 40 accident black spots to give advice to drivers about the importance of driving safely, while the 'stop, look and listen' method of crossing the road will be hammered home to pupils.

Officers hope the operation will lead to a reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured on Kent's roads, which in 2008 stood at 87.

A further 570 received 'slight' injuries.

Acting Chief Insp Preston Chalk said the campaign came about as part of the You Said, We Did initiative, which promotes police following up residents' concerns.

Campaign

He said: "It's absolutely crucial that children are taught about road safety from a young age."

"They're often very frantic and enjoy running about, but it's important they know they can't always be like that when they're not in school."

"We hope this campaign will allow children to reflect on the consequences of running in the road and the impact it would have on their parents, friends and teachers if something terrible were to happen to them."

"Thankfully, the schools already work very hard to promote this issue, as do the majority of parents, so we are just enforcing the message."

The campaign – launched in partnership with Medway Council's road-safety team, Kent Highway Services and other partner agencies – was launched at Senacre Wood Primary School in Maidstone last week.

Concentration camp survivor's lessons about racism

BELA Rosenthal was just six months old when she was taken prisoner by the Nazis.

Her Jewish father had already been killed at the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in 1942 and her mother's death was soon to follow when she was struck down with TB.

Orphaned at just two years old, Bela was released from the Theresienstadt concentration camp when the Red Cross took it over from the Nazis at the end of the Second World War in 1945.

Despite having little memory of the Holocaust, during which six million Jews were murdered by the Nazis, Bela – now Joanna Millan – has clear memories of her childhood.

And to bring home the terrifying realities and pay respect to those who died, the mother-of-three gave her poignant account to schoolchildren at St John's Catholic School in Gravesend.

Her talk was timed for just before Holocaust Memorial Day, which is being held today (Wednesday).

This year's theme is 'The Legacy of Hope', which encourages young people to learn from survivors' experiences.

Mrs Millan, who lives in London, is using her own experience to push home the message about racism and tolerance to youngsters.

The 67-year-old, who has eight grandchildren, managed to survive in the Theresienstadt camp – 50 miles outside Prague – thanks to a lady called Litska Shallinger.

Knowing that the food in the concentration camp was contaminated, Litska would collect vegetables and hide them under her clothes so she could feed the young girl.

On May 3, 1945, the Red Cross took over the camp and Bela was freed, but she was not to return to her home in Berlin.

"My first memory was being put in a house by the Russians while they decided what would happen to us," she said.

"The British government said it would take up to 1,000 children, but it took 300 in the end."

"I was flown with five other surviving orphans – it was a very confusing time. There was no family for me in Britain, so I was put in a home."

She was eventually adopted by a wealthy Jewish couple in London who changed her name to Joanna.

Eight years ago, Mrs Millan, who is chairman of the Holocaust Survivors Association, married a Jewish man and continues to have a close relationship with her own family. "I think I've tried to compensate for what I missed out on," she said.

This year's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the 65th anniversary of the Auschwitz-Birkenau liberation.

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust, which organised the visit, said: "Joanna's story is one of tremendous courage during horrific circumstances."

"By hearing her testimony, St John's Catholic School's students will have the opportunity to learn where hate and racism can ultimately lead."



IDENTITY: Bela is now Joanna Millan

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QUESTION & ANSWER

JAMES HEMING



Q & A

The Heart FM DJ speaks to **Simon Robinson** about his 10th anniversary as a breakfast presenter, a trip to Melbourne in Australia which turned out to be a highlight of his career and one memorable on-air blooper

Q Tell us a bit about yourself

A I am James Heming, 39. I'm from Whitstable and one of the presenters on Heart's Breakfast Show with James and Gemma. I am the James bit.

Q What is your job and what does it involve?

A Officially I am a radio broadcaster, which involves entertaining Kent every morning as they wake up on Kent's No 1 commercial radio station.

Q How did you get into radio?

A It was back in 1992 that I got my first break, but years before that in my early teens I knew it was all I wanted to do but had no idea how to do it, or indeed if I would be any good. And to start with, I really wasn't very good.

Q Ten years is a landmark, what are your feelings now?

A I just can't quite believe that I have been getting up at 4.30am every morning for 10 years now. Yes, it is a landmark, but it has flown by. I mean, when we were younger I'm convinced we thought a decade was a massive amount of time. It's been like being on the radio for the whole of the 80s, just not quite as revolutionary.

Q What are your highlights?

A One main one has to be being able to evolve to keep it fresh. I never thought I would be particularly good at evolving or changing.

My boss probably still thinks I'm not, but a lot has changed in 10 years and I'm still there, so I must be doing something right. That's a highlight for me.

Other highlights would be all the amazing places I have broadcast from around the world, my favourite being Melbourne, Australia. Three blokes in a hotel, the entire Victoria tourist board at our beck'n'call, helicopter flights, after-show parties with rock bands and writing our very own Aussie soap... what a week!

Q Any big bloopers you wish to share?

A There is only one that I remember, but I genuinely think it is the only one. I got so impassioned with a subject, I accidentally included the F word in my delivery. I'll never forget the looks on the faces from everyone else in the studio. I immediately apologised and most people said it was the funniest thing they'd ever heard.

Q What other broadcasting goals do you hope to achieve?

A Blimey, that's a tough one. The commercial radio industry has changed dramatically

over the past five years or so. It's certainly not a place you can make your million just by standing in front of a microphone. Once, maybe, but not any more. It's a daunting question because I still have 30-odd years of work to go and this certainly won't last forever.

I'd love to perhaps end up on a national station and do radio that involves more current affairs. I'd love to be a foreign correspondent.

Q What skills are needed to be a good radio host?

A Realise there is nothing funnier or more relatable than the truth; remember who your audience is; and check that your character is someone people will want to spend time with. Try not to be like someone else – have confidence that who you are will be appealing.

Q What do you like to do in your spare time?

A Sleep, eat (less at the moment), watch great American TV series, go sailing and try to keep the peace among the children.

Q Anything you would like to add?

A Just a huge thank-you to everyone who has supported the show. If you weren't there listening, I wouldn't be here. I put a huge value on the fact that people choose to listen to us here at Heart, especially with so much choice around. It's extremely flattering. Thank you.

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FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	3°C	4°C	5°C	5°C	4°C	Gravesend	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	5°C
Canterbury	2°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	3°C	Maidstone	3°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	4°C
Chatham	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	Ramsgate	2°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	3°C
Dartford	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	5°C	Rochester	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C
Dover	2°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	Sevenoaks	2°C	4°C	3°C	2°C	3°C
Faversham	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	Sittingbourne	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C
Folkestone	2°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C	Tonbridge	3°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C
Gillingham	3°C	6°C	5°C	4°C	4°C	Tun Wells	3°C	4°C	4°C	4°C	3°C

TODAY'S FORECAST

WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	12:43pm	6.2m
	Sunday	1:31pm	6.4m
Dover	Saturday	10:51am	6.7m
	Sunday	11:40am	6.8m
Dungeness	Saturday	10:53am	7.6m
	Sunday	11:39am	7.9m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:21am	5.1m
	Sunday	12:10pm	5.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:33pm	5.9m
	Sunday	1:21pm	6.1m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:37pm	5.4m
	Sunday	1:27pm	5.5m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	-2°C	Madrid	8°C
Athens	7°C	New York	3°C
Barcelona	9°C	Paris	5°C
Beijing	-1°C	Rome	8°C
Bombay	31°C	Sydney	25°C
Cape Town	23°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	4°C	Tokyo	10°C
Gibraltar	14°C	Vancouver	7°C
Hong Kong	18°C	Warsaw	-18°C
Las Palmas	19°C	Wellington	15°C

Picture the lives of young refugees

A FILM made by schoolchildren forced to flee their countries and start a new life in Canterbury has been nominated for an award.

The young people came from many countries including Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and China. They have made a film called 'Small Rabbits' about their attempts to escape the danger of their home countries for the safety of the UK.

The teenagers, who fled to England with no parents or guardians, wrote, animated and edited the film themselves.

The unaccompanied asylum seekers were given the opportunity to make the film by charity Kent Refugee Action Network, Christ Church University and the Animate and Create project.

Award

Their film has now been screened at the Department for Children, Schools and Families youth conference and the Victoria and Albert Museum, and has now been nominated for a prestigious First Light award.

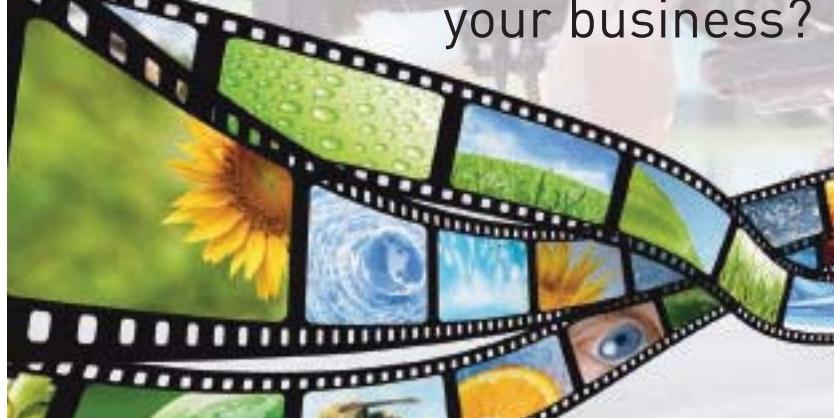
The children's creation will be in the 'Best Impact' category, which will be judged by the producer of The Boat That Rocked, the director of BBC drama Cranford, ITV news reader Charlene White and BBC presenter Jeff Leach.

First Light gives funding and expertise to five to 19 year olds to make short films and media projects. Since it launched in 2001 the project has funded over 30,000 youngsters to make more than 1,000 films.

Barbara Broccoli, chair of First Light, said: "Through First Light young people are given an opportunity to have their voices heard by telling their stories through film."

"This process enables them to learn important skills and build confidence and self esteem."

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Police Chief defends E.ON security letter

Fuller impartial over public's right to legal protests

KENT'S Chief Constable Mike Fuller has spoken out against accusations he undermined the public's right to protest at Kingsnorth power station.

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, Mr Fuller denied claims made in the *Guardian* newspaper that he strayed from his duty to 'neutrally facilitate' peaceful protests when he advised the energy firm E.ON to take greater steps to disrupt any future activity on the site.

The accusations relate to an incident in October, 2007, when six Greenpeace activists scaled a 200m smokestack to protest against plans for a new coal-fired power station, causing more than £30,000 damage.

Mr Fuller has been criticised for suggesting in a subsequent letter to E.ON that the German firm should seek "legal remedies" – including High Court injunctions – to scupper such demonstrations in the future.

But he told KOS Media the advice was issued to the company in response to specific concerns about security at the site.

He said: "The company was treated in exactly the same way as any victim of crime, namely we provided it with the requested advice about security."

"Kent Police has a public duty to inform all organisations about any threat to their premises."



DENIAL: Mike Fuller refutes newspaper claim

"The letter is clearly advising E.ON to improve security to prevent further trespass at a site where there is the possibility of death or serious injury to anyone entering illegally."

"As Chief Constable I have a duty to the taxpayers of Kent to avoid excessive policing costs wherever possible, and that was what the letter was seeking to do by suggesting possible solutions to E.ON."

Nicknamed the Kingsnorth Six, the Greenpeace activists were all spared jail in September 2008, when they convinced a crown court jury that any damage they caused was justified in the context of the potential damage that would be caused to the environment by carbon dioxide emissions from a new power station.

E.ON said at the time it was concerned other protestors would see the verdict as permission for them to break in and damage important power plants.

Mr Fuller's letter to the company – which was sent about eight months before the trial – states that his counter-terrorism security advisors could help the firm improve site security, and that it was "grossly inappropriate" for Kent taxpayers to foot the bill for any of its shortcomings.

He told KOS Media: "We have not attempted to make any secret of the letter and it is available for the public to read on our website. It also specifically acknowledges Greenpeace's right to carry out lawful protests."

"Kent Police has always been completely impartial about legal protests and, as the Chief Constable of Kent, I have never strayed from my duty to remain impartial when policing demonstrations."

The accusations levelled at Mr Fuller represent yet more negativity surrounding the way the force has handled environmental protests at Kingsnorth.

Last week Kent Police admitted using stop-and-search powers illegally at the infamous Climate Camp demonstration in summer 2008.

Politicians, protestors and academics involved in the rally have always claimed the police response was disproportionate to the threat posed by the activists.

MEP calls for burka ban to avoid 'divided society'

BAN the burka is the call from a top politician in Kent who says the veil has no place on the streets of the UK.

Nigel Farage is the former leader of the UK Independence Party and is a Kent MEP.

He said veils worn by some Muslim women, to completely cover the face, should be outlawed.

Mr Farage said fines could be used to dissuade women from wearing them, but policing this would be problematic.

But he insisted there are three main reasons why the burka, or full-face jihab, should never be seen in the UK again.

He told KOS Media: "I can't wear a hoodie in Bluewater, I can't wear a balaclava on the underground, and I can't wear a crash helmet in a bank – and all for good reason."

"This is especially true as one of the 7/7 bombers in London escaped because he had a veil over his face. So the security point is inarguable."

"Secondly, we believe the veils are being used as a way to subjugate women. In a society where we talk about equality of opportunity, and fair play for all regardless of age, race, class, sex, this is clearly being used to keep some women down, and there are forthright critics of this from the Muslim community itself."

The third reason he is arguing for the ban is help prevent the creation of a divided society.

Mr Farage, from Bromley, said: "All the main parties for decades have been calling for a multi-cultural society."

"And yet we are seeing a divided society of which the burka is



BURKA: Women in traditional dress

a symbol. We are increasingly seeing ghettoised towns and cities along with a rise in radicalism and even more worrying, the increasingly loud calls for Sharia law to be introduced."

"We want to live in a society that has one law that is applied equally and fairly to everybody. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams said two years ago that he saw the imposition of Sharia law in Britain's major cities as being inevitable."

"We do not agree with or want that analysis."

"The law has to apply to everyone or it is not worth a light."

The Kent Muslim Welfare Association was set up in the 70s to support its diverse Islamic community.

It said its vision is to provide a range of Islamic services for the local Muslim community in Kent, with a view to improving quality of life and enhancing community cohesion.

Anwar Khan is the co-ordinator for education and community cohesion, and he said: "It's about freedom. If women want to wear them, that is their choice and they should be free to do so."

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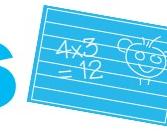
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BREAK TIME

Lord Chief Justice lectures on the law

THE former Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, will give an open lecture about law in Canterbury on Friday.

Lord Bingham became Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales in 1996, and was the highest-ranking judge in regular courtroom service.

He was the first senior law lord, is a knight of the garter and was high steward of Oxford University for seven years.

The talk, which begins at 6pm on Friday, January 29 at the Woolf lecture theatre at Kent University, is entitled 'The Law Today' and is free and open to all.

Dealing with cancer care in a recession

THE chief executive of a leading cancer charity is giving a talk about health care in difficult financial times.

Mr Thomas Hughes-Hallett, who works for Marie Curie Cancer Care, will give a talk called 'Better health care in a cold financial climate – how volunteers, communities and charities can take the lead when money is short.'

The open lecture starts at 6pm on Wednesday, February 3 at the Woolf lecture theatre at the University of Kent.

Catholic history talk

THOSE interested in the history of Christianity can go to an open lecture at Kent University tomorrow.

The talk entitled 'Vital or Vulnerable? The English Church in the Late Medieval Ages' is in Grimond Lecture Theatre 1 at the Canterbury campus at 6pm.



WINNERS BRING IT HOME: The winning team, who called themselves Public Voice and who are all in Year 8, each received medals and certificates from the Lord Mayor

Pupils impress 'dragons' with their business savvy

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

A VANDAL-proof high-tech dustbin, a voice-activated lock and a homing device for lost keys were all ideas Spires Academy pupils took into their own Dragon's Den.

School pupils formed companies and pitched their big ideas to a panel of business big-shots including representative from Kent University, Kent County Council and the Lord Mayor.

The winners' idea was to allow families to get into their home without keys, by using voice recognition technology instead.

Mike Whiting, managing editor of Holiday Extras, was one of the judges.

He said: "The idea was a simple but effective

one that had been well thought out with cost, suppliers, retailers and price all considered. The teamwork was brilliant and the presentation was very assured in front of the 'dragons' and a hall packed full of students."

"I was impressed with all the ideas and I think the future of Kent business is in safe hands at Spires Academy."

The winning team, who called themselves Public Voice, included director Ryan McCormick, Jordan Maxwell, Liam Marhsam, Jack Leggett, Dean Mils and Henry Lee who are all in Year 8.

Director Ryan McCormick said: "The day

was fun, especially being part of a team. It was hard work too, but I feel like a businessman now."

The winning team each received medals and certificates from the Lord Mayor. The best two teams will go to a regional final in March at Highsted School in Sittingbourne where they will battle other schools in Kent.

Before the competition students attended a presentation by motivational speaker and businessman Dean Martin of Beyond Excellence who came to offer helpful tips for their time in the den.

Pupils were also helped by students from the University of Kent and Christ Church University who assisted them in developing their ideas.

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yourcanterburyblogger

Is it any wonder our children just cry 'day off school' at the sight of snow when teachers set such a bad example?



The cold, hard facts about Ofsted attendance records

I LOVED the idea put forward by the county council last week that teachers should make their way to their nearest school on days when snow makes it difficult to get in.

And I was amused to hear that our teachers' employment contracts already tell them to do just that and they then had the cheek to criticise county councillors who didn't know.

Why, then, hadn't they turned up at their nearest school on snow days in line with their contracts?

Then I listened in wonder as a supply teacher phoned Radio Kent on the subject and squirmed pathetically about her colleagues' failure to do their jobs earlier this month.

She finally said yes, she would go to her nearest school... "if she could get out of her road".

Like many parents, I was again left incensed earlier this month by the ease with which

schools simply close up when there's snow... but it seems Ofsted (that bastion of ensuring standards) may actually be to blame.

Unfortunately we live in an age when teachers – who get loads more holiday than anyone else in the working world – believe that a little bad weather means they should have the day off school.

Without wishing to go on about this too much, surely if you take a job – any job – you agree with your employer to turn up on time and do the work for which you are paid.

Whether you are a teacher, shopworker or office worker, you have a responsibility to your employer.

Live too far away from your workplace? That's your choice – think about it before you take the job on. If it's going to snow, then if you live too far away, make arrangements to stay nearby – or, of course, take it as a holiday day.

But, with teachers setting their appalling example to our children, we now have a cul-

ture in Britain where snow means 'have a day off'. Fortunately our police officers, doctors, nurses and ambulance drivers still seem able to get into work when the white stuff falls.

And while you hear people say 'I can't get to work', you never seem to hear 'I can't get home' when it's been snowing. This is Britain, not Siberia.

So, back to teachers who finished their two-week Christmas break just in time for their annual fistful of snow days.

Why, you ask, do so many schools close?

Well, it seems that watchdog Ofsted may really be to blame. Attendance is one of the standards by which school performance is judged.

And if the school opens on a snowy day and children do stay at home, the school will be penalised.

However, if it closes for the day because of snow, Ofsted marks it with 100 per cent attendance.

So now you know.

GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



EMAIL: Letters, comments, views (along with your name) to: yourcanterbury@kosmedia.co.uk



TEXT: CANT then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include your name)

LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, Gareth Arnold, on 01303 817024 or email him

on the details above. If you want to be the next Canterbury blogger then submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, Yourcanterbury, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

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yourcompetition

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Secondly you will get a **£57 pair of simulant diamond stud earrings from CARAT jewellery**. Available in 9k white gold, the

stud collection offers a variety of shapes and sizes ranging from heart and teardrop shapes to the more classic oval design. See www.carat.cc.

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To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Bluewater Valentine's Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is February 9, 2009.

Question: How many stores are there in Bluewater?

Terms and Conditions: Entrants must be over 18. The prizes cannot be substituted for cash or any other equivalent. Prizes must be collected from Bluewater Management Suite at a mutually agreeable time. Personal Stylist session must be booked in advance and is subject to availability. Cost of clothing is not included in this competition prize.

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For more gift ideas go to www.bluewater.co.uk. Anna Moore, Bluewater: 07980 299192; Carat, Bluewater: 01322 423000; Rigby & Peller, Bluewater: 01322 422600.



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yourletters

TALK TIME

KERRIE NIMMO

Kerrie Nimmo talks to Jenny Armstrong about her stall selling home-made wood products with her partner Simon Davis at The Goods' Shed



What do you make?

We make high quality kitchen and home-ware from different types of beautiful wood. Our range includes solid iroko chopping boards that can be made to customers' size specifications and we can cut grooves and fit spikes for meat carving boards. We also make decorative boards and coasters inlaid with colourful wood such as rosewood, yew, maple, beech and padauk as well as oak candlesticks and boxes made from yew and rosewood. We have recently been employed by JoJos restaurant in Tankerton to make the bars, tables, boards and candlesticks for their new premises.

Is being an artisan your day job?

We work in art education so this is not a day job, but we both have creative backgrounds - Simon trained as a furniture maker and I studied fine art specialising in sculpture. Deciding to make and sell work came from making furniture, shelves, boxes, candlesticks and boards for our own home. This progressed to making things for friends and family, who persuaded us that there could be a market for it. We have had a stall at The Goods' Shed on Sundays since October and had an amazing amount of interest.

What are the challenges with wood?

Variety - you have to know which wood to use for a particular task, some wood is suitable for one use but not another. Sourcing - we are keen to recycle and over the years we have collected wood from reclamation yards, skips, and even rescued it from the bonfire. Stability - wood can have hidden defects that may present challenges when working it.

YOUR LETTERS

Muslim march has militant agenda

It seems clear there is a militant agenda at work within Islam4UK intent on provoking racial unrest. (Campaign wins battle to stop Muslim march, YourCanterbury, January 13).

Islam4UK is obviously being deliberately provocative by attempting to stage a protest march through the Wiltshire town of Wootton Bassett, where coffins would be carried symbolising Muslims killed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Islam4UK is displaying a gross lack of sensitivity by demanding the right to march through this location recently associated with honouring Britain's war dead.

It is, of course, terrible that hundreds of thousands of civilians have been tragically killed in Afghanistan and Iraq and Muslims have every right to organise a march that brings this fact to the attention of the masses, but not a procession that takes them along a contemplative route set aside for the respectful acknowledgement of our fallen soldiers.

Name and address withheld

Government is off track with fare rise

Last week you carried a story to say that commuters face further fare rises on the railways.

Surely at a time when the Government is doing all it can to get people out of their cars and



LETTERS: Please send your letters in to us at Yourcanterbury, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR



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COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourcanterbury.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourcanterbury.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Canterbury as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of YourCanterbury before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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onto public transport, this is as counter-productive as it is possible to get.

If ministers were serious about pushing a more environmentally-friendly agenda then making it more attractive to use the

railways should be at the top of the policy list?

Instead those who do avoid clogging up the roads each morning and evening are being further penalised.

Harry Edwards, by email

Cheaper train fares is right destination

The story currently being featured about an increase in rail fares shows just how far behind current thinking our Government is.

Across Europe railways are subsidised by the Government and consequently fares are extremely competitive.

Not so here where the Government is refusing to put any more money into the network.

How can this be squared away with a commitment to reducing car usage and the consequent emissions?

Also a large amount of investment has gone into the railways with the high speed train network across Kent.

This must mean that those in charge want people to use it.

So cheaper fares is surely the way forward.

Brian Collins, by email

Wright's wrong about 4x4s

Gary Wright endorses the use of 4x4s claiming that they are the ideal vehicles to cope with our cracked and potholed roads (Why weren't our roads ready for the big freeze? Your Blogger, Jan 20).

Has it not occurred to Mr Wright that perhaps it is the prolific use of these monstrous Chelsea Tractors that is contributing to the incremental collapse of our road surfaces?

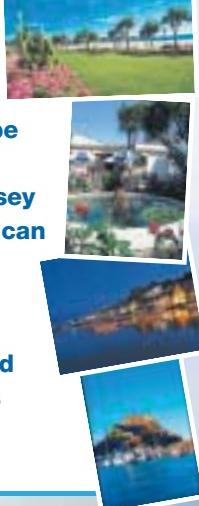
These craters and fissures can't all be down to the occasional weather cold snap as he fancifully suggests.

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Even celebrity petrol-head Jeremy Clarkson described 4x4 owners (who don't need them for farm work or for crossing rough terrain) as "clinically insane".

If more people purchased the green, economical motor vehicles that Mr Wright sees fit to ridicule then we would notice a dramatic improvement to both the roads and our air quality.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury

Send 4x4s back to the Eighties

I was most annoyed to read the article in Your Blogger, praising 4x4 vehicles.

I am sorry if I may be slandering the polite 4x4 drivers out there, but from what I can see, the bigger the vehicle, the bigger the wimp inside. These vehicles are driven by people who are afraid of the real world, but want to bully pedestrians, cyclists and those in smaller vehicles. The idea of there being any more of them is a complete anathema to me! A 4x4 vehicle is heavy, so is dangerous to other road users; it takes far more resources to build, emits more pollution and uses far more fuel than a smaller vehicle. In addition, due to its weight, it

damages the road and helps create even more potholes! And about the potholes: if people drove at a more reasonable speed when they knew there were potholes waiting to be mended, they would save a lot of damage to their cars. I was walking along a country road last week and I was nearly run down by a 4x4 going far faster than necessary, and of course taking the whole width of the road – our local country lanes were not built for these huge vehicles.

My husband commutes nine miles each way to work, cross-country, throughout the year – by bicycle. In the snow and ice he just jumps on his recumbent tricycle instead, and carries on. We had high snow drifts around Deal, but he never had a day off work. I commute the same distance by cycling to the station and then putting my bike on the train, which I did through the bad weather. During the snow I also commuted for a few days by scooter along the main road, so I know it was gritted and practically pot-hole free – a 4x4 was not necessary.

In my opinion the only need for a 4-wheel drive vehicle is if you live on a farm, or down a track in the middle of nowhere. They are an unnecessary anachronism for the rest of us, and should be sent back to the 1980s, where they belong.

Name and address supplied, by email

Kent is Key for cricket captain

Sad to see a certain Rob Key attracted not one iota of interest from any Indian Premier League club when he put himself forward to play in cricket's most glamorous and lucrative tournament.

Let's hope he got the message – it's only Kent that wants and needs you so that's who you should concentrate on.

Mike Swift, by email

Nominate an adult learner for an award

The deadline to nominate people for Adult Learners' Week Awards is approaching. These awards are a great way to celebrate the inspirational, outstanding and remarkable achievements of all adult learners.

Visit www.alw.org.uk/nominate to fill out an online application, email alw@niace.org.uk, or phone 0116 204 4200 for more information. Nominations close at 5pm on Friday, January 29, 2010. Everyone who is nominated receives a certificate.

Richard Crabb, NIACE, by email



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Swap your veg for a riverside dinner

■ **Grove Ferry, Canterbury**

THE Grove Ferry is now independently owned by four individuals, in partnership with Shepherd Neame brewery.

The menu is all sourced from local suppliers and food is cooked fresh to order. Dishes suitable for expectant mums are prominently displayed.

The pub's boathouse has been opened for weddings and functions, with guests able to

enjoy the stunning views of the river and surrounding countryside.

April will see the launch of a fish and chip shop in the pub's large riverside beer garden – while a range of hearty English food will still be offered.

Customers can even bring their home-grown vegetables to exchange for meal vouchers.

A mums' club offers a bottomless cup of coffee at 8am on a Monday, aimed at mothers who want to unwind.

The pub regularly holds charity events and recently raised money for Great Ormond Street Hospital with a Kids Eat Free day.

One of the owners will be running in the London Marathon for this cause and any tips received on Mothers' Day will be donated.

Seasonal dishes are advertised on a blackboard each month as the best of that period's produce is offered.

Jason Rowlands, the new head chef, won a number of awards during his time at The Wiremill, Surrey, where he created one of the UK's top gastropubs.

From March riverboat trips will be started on board the Anne Marie.

The Grove Ferry, Grove Ferry Rd, Upstreet, Canterbury, CT3 4BP 01227 860302, www.thegroveferry.co.uk



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out guide

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Elegance of the past

The Walpole Bay

THE Walpole Bay Hotel is a Thanet institution, built for discerning guests in 1914 and extended in 1927.

Built by Louisa Budge it remained in her family's possession until 1995 and it is now being restored by the Bishop family.

From the moment guests step inside they are transported to a bygone era – spacious lounges, flower-decked veranda, Edwardian restaurant, snooker room and a 1920s ballroom with its sprung maple dance floor.

The Walpole has two excellent bars, with the restaurant bar lounge and terrace open from 7am each day serving delicious home-cooked meals. Breakfast is available until 9.30am and dinner between 7pm and 9pm daily.

The menu now includes options for smoked salmon and caviar.

Traditional Sunday luncheons are served at 1pm when resident pianist Nick Capocci plays a 1908 pianola.

Pre-booking is required for breakfast, dinner and Sunday lunch and special dietary requirements can be catered for.



The snack menu and breakfast menu are available for room service at an additional charge to guests.

There is even a museum of local artifacts in the hotel to add to its period feel.

Jane Bishop, owner, said: "Ours is a lovely story and we are writing a book about the renovation of the Walpole. We welcome visitors to our home, hotel and museum – the realisation of a 35-year ambition."

Walpole Bay Hotel, Fifth Avenue, Cliftonville
www.walpolebayhotel.co.uk, telephone 01843 221703

Great food and live music

Prince of Wales, Hoath

THE country village of Hoath is the setting for one of the finest traditional English pubs in the area, renowned for both its food and drink.

The Prince of Wales in Maypole Road preserves the traditional pub atmosphere with live music and gourmet evenings - no karaoke or gaming machines spoil the ambience.

Excellent food is provided by three full-time chefs who work tirelessly to provide the very best for the tables, seven days a week.

A candlelit atmosphere and floral displays add to the feeling of warmth and friendliness.

A special Dean Martin and Elvis Presley evening with a three-course meal, coffee and mints will be held on February 19 at £25 per person while February 25 sees a performance by Hullabaloo and dinner for £35. On March 13, a tribute night to Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra will be held for the same cost.

Owner Marc Perkins has spent four years at the pub. He said: "I have been in the business



for 15 years, but I am always looking to improve standards and continue to do so."

Rump of lamb served with fresh mint jus and Lyonnaise potatoes is a favourite dish.

Families and children are welcome. There is also new access for people with a disability.

The pub is open from 11 am until midnight each day of the week and food is available all the time.

The Prince of Wales, Maypole Road, Hoath, near Canterbury, CT3 4LN. Call 01227 860338, www.princeofwales.co.uk

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Dessert: Apple and gooseberry crumble served with custard or cream
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Unicorn

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Telephone number: 01227 830210

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yourleisure

Murder on his mind

Reality TV star Lee Mead, who won the West End role of Joseph, is turning his hand to a classic comedy part

LORD ARTHUR SAVILE'S CRIME

Monday to Saturday, February 1-6
The Churchill, Bromley



FROM Biblical visions to dark prophecies of the future, Lee Mead is making another leap of faith.

The song-and-dance man shot to fame when he appeared in the BBC talent-search show Any Dream Will Do in which aspiring musical stars battled to become "the people's Joseph".

Mead saw off tough competition from 19 other hopefuls to win the title role in Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat in 2007 and he played the character to packed houses until early last year.

His debut solo album, Nothing Else Matters, sold almost 200,000 copies and he recently released his second album. But now he returns to the stage to take on the lead role in the witty Oscar Wilde comedy Lord Arthur Savile's Crime which sees him dealing with very different predictions of the future.

Lord Arthur Savile enjoys a privileged position in life and could hardly be happier – he is considered a pillar of Victorian society and is looking forward to getting married. With the lovely Sybil Merton promised as his bride, the future looks bright for the wealthy young man.

However, things take a dark turn when Lord Arthur is introduced to a clairvoyant by the name of Podgers who announces that the nobleman will commit a murder at some time in his future.

Haunted by the prophecy and desperate to protect his bride-to-be, Lord Arthur decides to carry out the deed before he marries. So begins a hunt for the perfect victim, but murder turns out to be more difficult than he had anticipated.

Mead is joined on stage by popular entertainer Gary Wilmot, who has recently appeared in a national tour of Chicago and starred in West End productions of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Copacabana and Me & My Girl.

Dynasty star Kate O'Mara brings a touch of glamour to the cast, having also starred in television shows such as Howard's Way and Bad Girls.

David Ross has appeared in comedies such as The Green Green Grass, Red Dwarf and Goodnight Sweetheart, while Darren Nesbitt is best known for his roles in TV drama Special Branch and the classic film Where Eagles Dare.

To book tickets, phone the box office on 0844 871 7620 or alternatively visit the website at www.ambassadortickets.com/bromley.



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THE POGUE TRADERS

Saturday, January 30
Orange Street Music Club,
Canterbury



REVISIT the heyday of the Pogues when an acclaimed tribute band pays homage to the musical mavericks.

Attending a gig by the Pogue Traders is like travelling back in time to the late 80s, according to satisfied customers who say the tribute group is 'fantastic'.

Capturing the sound and spirit of the maverick Irish band at the height of its success, the Pogue Traders perform many classic hits with the same humour and style exhibited by the originals.

Formed in 1982, the Pogues started out using traditional instruments to perform their brand of Irish music with punk rock and jazz influences. Renowned for playing Irish folk music with a punk approach, the band scored an unlikely fe-



tive hit with Fairytale of New York in 1988. Featuring Kirsty MacColl, the song was a huge hit and continues to be one of the most popular Christmas tunes.

The concert starts at 8pm

and support will be provided by Relig Oran. Tickets cost £6 in advance or £7 on the door. For more information call 01227 760801 or visit www.myspace.com/twilight-folkclub.

DAVE GORMAN

Friday, February 5
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



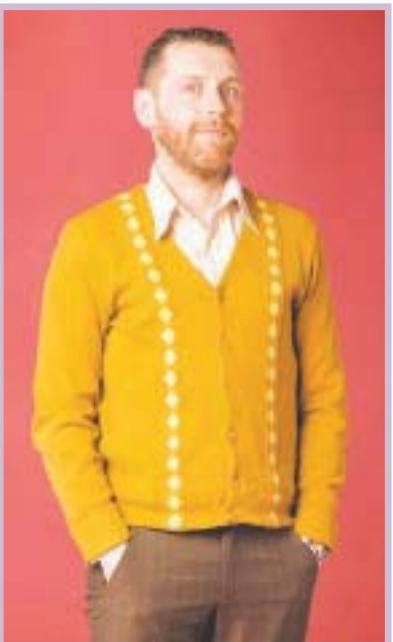
COMEDIAN Dave Gorman got on his bike last year to bring laughter to fans across Britain.

For his 2009 tour, Gorman decided to travel in eco-friendly style and cycle from venue to venue. Because of this pledge, the comic covered more than 1,500 miles in 33 days, performing a gig each night.

The aptly-named tour – Dave Gorman: Sit Down, Pedal, Pedal, Stop and Stand Up – was such a success that demand has continued into this year, but now Gorman is ditching the bicycle.

Gorman is something of a pioneer in the field of documentary comedy, having undertaken various experiments and road trips in search of laughs. But next month's show sees him going back to his roots as a stand-up comedian. It is the same show he toured last year, which was described by critics as 'mercilessly sharp and original', just without the bicycle clips and blisters.

The show starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £10. They're selling fast, so book now by calling 01227 769075 or go to www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.



NEW ROPE STRING BAND

Thursday, February 4
Godmersham and
Crundale Village Hall



GO along to see the New Rope String band and decide if they are a folk band or a fabulous music hall act.

While the band seems to defy definition, the one certainty is that they will provide an unforgettable evening of entertainment.

The four talented musicians play acoustic music from around the world, using fiddles, guitar, piano, accordion and anything else they can lay their hands on.

They also sing and dance and manage to raise plenty of laughs too, prompting people to wonder whether they are a real band or a cabaret act.

Peter Challoner and Tim Dalling of the Old Rope



String Band have joined forces with Jock Tyldesley and Vera van Heeringen to bring you exuberant theatrics, rib-tickling comedy and unforgettable music.

The concert, which starts at 7.30pm, is part of

Applause Rural Touring's winter programme. Tickets cost £8/£4 and can be booked on 01227 733624 or emailing catherinegee1972@aol.com. Find out more about Applause online at www.applause.org.uk.

CANTERBURY LEISURE

Crooner will provide the music at tea dance

SPEND an afternoon tripping the light fantastic and making new friends at a tea dance in Canterbury.

The event runs at the Northgate Community Centre from 2-4pm on Thursday, with entertainment from easy listening singer Martin Croones.

Admission costs £2 including refreshments. Those who do not wish to dance can go along and enjoy the music.

Laughter and silliness on cards at music club

ANYTHING can happen when The Noise Next Door perform their hilarious brand of improvisation comedy.

Their silly characters and cracking one-liners will keep the audience entertained at the Orange Street Music Club in Canterbury tonight.

The fun starts at 8pm and tickets cost £8/£6 on the door. For more information visit www.thenoisenextdoor.co.uk.

Go back to the origins of ska with Arthur K

CELEBRATE one of the unsung heroes of ska when Arthur K and the Originals visit Whitstable.

Arthur K's first records helped to get the ska movement off the ground in the 70s and his influence is still felt today.

The concert is at the Horsebridge Arts and Community Centre at 8pm on Friday and tickets cost £8. For details go to www.horsebridge-centre.org.uk or call 01227 281174.

Join Big Birdwatch to help work of RSPB

SPEND an hour observing the bird life in your garden this weekend as part of the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

The results help the RSPB to monitor species numbers and take action to protect Britain's birds.

Resources to help with your birdwatch can be downloaded at www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch or call 0300 456 8330 by Friday (Jan 29) to request a form.

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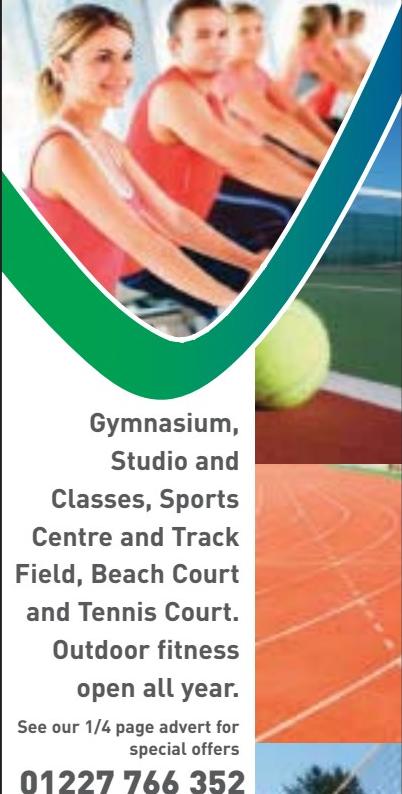


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Folk scene starts fightback against neo-Nazi infiltrators

■ BY DOMINIC GREENWOOD

A GIG aimed at keeping fascism out of folk music – and showcasing some of the best young folk talent in the UK – takes place in Maidstone next month.

Wheeler Street, Los Salvadores and the Didi Bergman Trio will perform at Flaming Henry's under the Folk Against Fascism banner.

Organiser Helen Treacy said: "The BNP is trying to distance itself from its past – the association with neo-Nazi bands like Skrewdriver – and position themselves as the defenders of British traditions.

"The party manifesto encourages members to infiltrate their local folk scene through funding and reviving local traditions. They have also been selling the work of respected musicians through their website, with the implication the artists support their views.

"The folk scene has reacted with revulsion as we are a welcoming, friendly and inclusive lot, and our politics couldn't be further away from the BNP's racism, neo-Nazism and thuggery.

"We want to make it absolutely clear that we do not support their policies and we resist their attempts to take over our culture."

The line-up includes some of the country's most hotly-tipped new folk bands.

Headline act Wheeler Street [www.myspace.com/wheelerstreet], named after the road in their home town of Maidstone, have proved themselves a major draw on the national folk circuit and boast appearances at Glastonbury and Cambridge



CALLING THE TUNE: Three acts will perform at the Folk Against Fascism concert next month

Folk Festival. The seven-piece play a variety of traditional instruments and throw electric guitar and drums into the mix, giving their music a contemporary feel. Los Salvadores [www.myspace.com/lossalvadorels], appearing as a three-piece for this gig, have also established themselves on the national festival scene, writing catchy, energetic songs inspired by Kent folk legends.

Helen said: "Wheeler Street are a brilliant, lively folk band who represent everything that is exciting about the current scene.

"I have seen them live many times now and know they will put on a great show.

"I asked Los Salvadores to play because I have been a fan of their brand of energetic folk since I saw them busking in the garden of my local pub one Saturday afternoon. They are very politically aware so were happy to support the cause."

Opening the night will be popular Medway singer-songwriter Didi Bergman [www.myspace.com/didibergman].

Helen said: "Didi is a wonderful singer from Medway who went down a storm at the Sweeps Festival in Rochester – her voice reminds me of the late Sandy Denny.

"She was also keen to perform and make a stand against what the BNP are trying to do.

"The acts have generously offered to play for reduced fees, so after covering expenses I'm hoping to make a sizeable donation to Folk Against Fascism's running costs.

"We will also keep a little aside to go towards future gigs. We have a long wish list of artists we'd like to book and are hoping FAF gigs will become a regular feature of the Maidstone folk scene."

The Folk Against Fascism fundraiser is on Thursday, February 4, at Flaming Henry's banquet hall (above the restaurant), 62 to 63 High Street, Maidstone.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £10 from wegottickets.com, or £12 on the door. There will be a 25 per cent meal discount for ticket holders. For more details, visit the website www.folkagainstfascism.com.

UPLOAD YOUR MUSIC VIDEOS TO BROADCAST ON OUR WEBSITE @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Lounge on the Farm 2009 highlights, with Los Salvadores. Search 'Lounge'



Watch Callista's audition for the Britain's Got Talent TV show. Search 'Callista'



TOP FIVE KENT CHART

- 1 We Are Tides - Mice and Men (from Canterbury)
- 2 Gristlebridge - Unbreakable (from Whitstable)
- 3 Shelta - Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)
- 4 The Flack - Forget Me (from Deal)
- 5 The Keytones - Autumn Time (from Canterbury)

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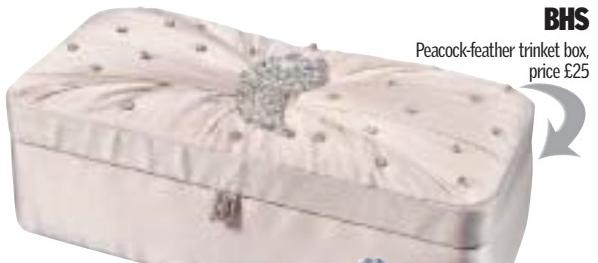
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CANTERBURY SHOPPING

Have you got a heart of gold? Alesha Dixon has

SHOW you have a heart by supporting the Variety Club's 19th Gold Heart Appeal.

Strictly Come Dancing star Alesha Dixon is ambassador for the appeal, which raises money to help sick and disadvantaged children and young people.

The new Gold Heart badges, which cost £1, will be available from Co-operative, H Samuel, Cineworld and Odeon, along with a number of other venues, from tomorrow, or at www.varietyclub.org.uk.

We'll all be seeing red next month for charity

PAINT the town red next month in support of the British Heart Foundation National Heart Month.

People across Kent are invited to see red during February and raise money for the charity. Thousands of people are already planning red-themed events.

On Friday, February 26, National Wear Red Day will provide more opportunities to raise money. For advice, phone Kim Brophy on 01580 754027 or email brophyk@bhf.org.uk.

Become Disney royalty at the Bluewater store

LITTLE princes and princesses can learn how to behave like royalty at the Disney Store at Bluewater.

To celebrate the release of new Disney film The Princess and the Frog, the store will be hosting a Royal Academy this Saturday and every Saturday morning throughout February.

Young royals can learn how to perfect their etiquette, draw and animate the frog and take part in a storytelling session.

See more at www.disneystore.co.uk.

Look amazing in skinny jeans - they're wizard

IF the New Year fitness regime has not seen results just yet, Glamour 24/7 Wizard jeans could be the answer.

Help is at hand for anyone who despairs of fitting into slimline jeans as the company claims that Wizard jeans can flatten tummies, lift bottoms and make anyone's legs look as long as a supermodel's.

Priced from £95, the jeans come in blue, black and white, with a Swarovski crystal detail option on the black jeans. See www.glamour247.com.

Get your teeth into Waterstone's group

ACCLAIMED vampire story Let the Right One In is one of the novels being discussed by the Westwood Cross Waterstone's book group.

The tale by John Ajvide Lindqvist is joined by Philip K Dick's A Scanner Darkly and The Dumas Club by Arturo Perez-Reverte.

The group meets at Caffe Nero on the first Tuesday of every month and the next meeting is at 5.45pm on Tuesday. Just turn up or join the discussion on Facebook.

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yourcanterburytimeout

YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

BELLAMY'S PEOPLE

BBC Two, 10pm, Thursday

IT'S rarely that I look forward to a TV show as much as Bellamy's People, the new slice of comedy on BBC Two.

Put together largely by the team that made the Fast Show, with a few others such as Amelia Bullmore added to the mix for good measure, this looked like a cracker from the moment I saw the trailer.

More of a spoof of those 'celebrities meet normal people' series than a sketch show, we meet an array of characters in each episode, each with their own strange stories to tell.

Host Gary Bellamy (Rhys Thomas) takes us up and down the country to meet the real inhabitants of our British Isles.

Bellamy himself is a kind of Alan Partridge-lite character, eager to connect with everyman Britain – especially if there's some good footage that showcases his people skills in it for him.

He is out and about, meeting the eccentrics who phone in to his radio show, but he's really little more than the foil and straight man for those with whom he converses.

We meet the 28-stone, bed-ridden man-mountain Graham Downes (Paul Whitehouse), who is eager to finish off any uneaten bowls of Sugar Puffs left by his mother, and the politically opposed and upper-class Coombes sisters – but there are dozens more.

Of course, all these characters are exaggerations, but this serial gets far closer to telling us about those who walk our streets and live behind the country's net-curtains than EastEnders ever will.

Outright jokes are thin on the



OUT THERE: The Fast Show team has come up with another BBC classic, Bellamy's People

ground, but this is a triumph of observation and I dare say you will spot characteristics of people from your own life in the myriad of personas we will meet over the course of the next seven weeks.

Bellamy's People they may be, but these are people you know, with whom you work and socialise, and that is a scary thought.

Be careful out there.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS

(Jan 21-Feb 19) DEVOTING time to a creative project gives you a profound sense of contentment. Lately, you've been expending too much energy on other people's needs. Don't be surprised if someone offers to pay you for your work. An admirer may ask you to teach a class.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



PISCES

(Feb 20-Mar 20) WHO you know is more important than what you know this week. Whether you're on the lookout for love, employment or fun, reach out to your friends. An earthy woman might have just the opportunity you desire. Let her set you up on a date or job interview.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



ARIES

(Mar 21-Apr 19) YOUR charm and wit goes over well in the work arena. A hidden benefactor could sing your praises to a powerful executive. You helped them when they were just starting out and now they are in an ideal position to return the favour. It just goes to show it pays to be nice.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



GEMINI

(May 22-Jun 21) YOUR sex appeal is at an all-time high. Finding love is as simple as crooking your finger in an admirer's direction. The two of you have a powerful physical connection and will spend many enjoyable hours locked in each other's arms. You're sure to turn heads at a glittering party.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



CANCER

(Jun 23-Jul 23) A CLOSE relationship gives you the courage to try something new. Normally, a traditionalist like you has difficulty venturing into unfamiliar territory. Now, with the help of a business contact, best friend or romantic partner, you have the confidence to embark on an adventure.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LEO

(Jul 24-Aug 23) YOU'VE always had a weakness for beautiful clothes. This week, you have the opportunity to add something snazzy to your wardrobe for next to nothing. Even if you do end up spending more than you initially planned, don't worry. Your image will open previously-closed doors.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



VIRGO

(Aug 24-Sep 23) BE SURE to buy yourself a lottery or raffle ticket this week, as your propensity for winning is very strong. If you've developed a strong attraction for a newcomer to your social circle why don't you be brave and ask them for a date? The two of you will hit it off instantly.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SCORPIO

(Oct 24-Nov 22) TAKING a short pleasure trip will put the twinkle back into your eye. Recently, you've been slaving away on a work project, trying to add more money to your bank account. Now this particular project is finishing up, you have a wonderful chance to get away.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 23-Dec 21) SPENDING more time on the people and activities you enjoy will be a blessed relief. Recently you've been devoting a lot of attention to some very unrewarding group projects, but this will be going out of your life. The opportunity to move to a new neighbourhood could fall arise.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



CAPRICORN

(Dec 22-Jan 20) PAYING careful attention to your appearance will yield rewards. You're not particularly vain, but you do like to look your best. Take careful note of which colours and styles look best on you. This will help narrow down your choices. It will also help you make your money start working for you.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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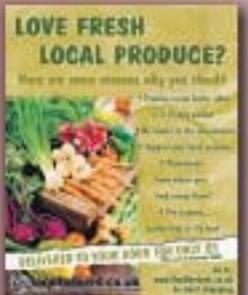
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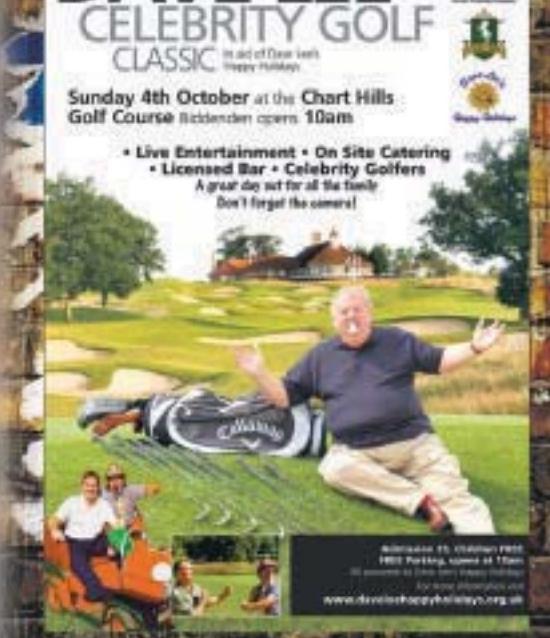


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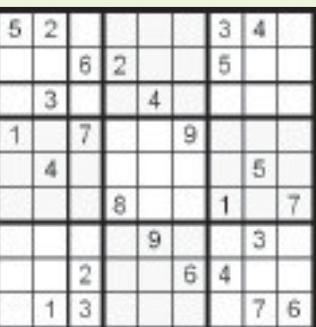
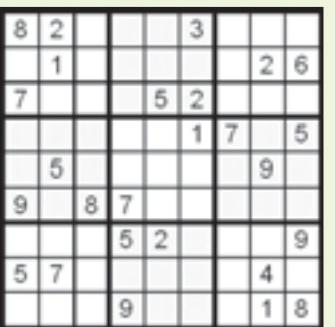
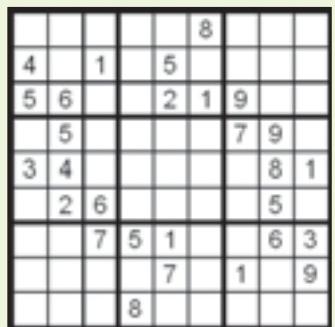
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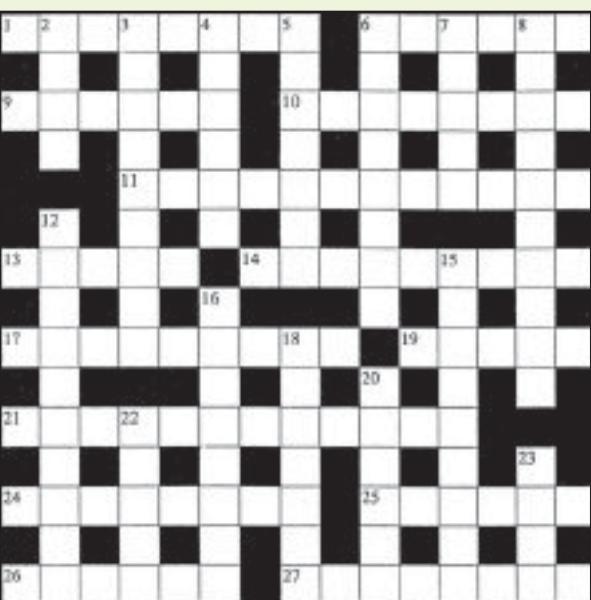


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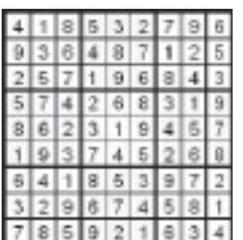
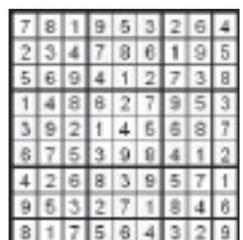
- 1 Carriage squashed a homburg (8)
- 6 Nearly half the month in charge with this tank (6)
- 9 Instrument not in drink (6)
- 10 Honest existence directly comparable to reality (4-4)
- 11 How pianist repeatedly was cautious and gentle (6-6)
- 13 Minor actor's bonus (5)
- 14 River crossing Irish county (9)
- 17 Boffin, potentially nicest one, by the way (9)
- 19 Political group festivity (5)
- 21 Varnish from two countries (6,6)
- 24 50 suffering lose strength (8)
- 25 How one's eyes lacked shininess when fitted with glass (6)
- 26 Behold the boil (6)
- 27 Moving free, not, say, from this (4-4)
- DOWN
- 2 Some pressure Lydia exerted on trust (4)
- 3 Lack of self-restraint of a French substitute (9)
- 4 Aptly describe ring included by fifth amazingly (3,3)
- 5 Girl from Matthew and topless Hilda (7)
- 6 Edward, after game, was steamrollered (8)
- 7 Spicy dish consumed by pupil afterwards (5)
- 8 Pass through antler if it moves (10)
- 12 Provoke troublesome bearcat in river (10)
- 15 With camera accessory returned to scene of the past (9)
- 16 Out of sorts titanic harbouring first parasite (4-4)
- 18 Mother's turn to stifle (7)
- 20 Dance, injuring leg, in irregular shaking motion (6)
- 22 Nearly time, time after sunset (5)
- 23 The lady's love for brave man (4)

SCRIBBLE HERE**QUICK CLUES****ACROSS**

- 1 ABC (8)
- 6 Wine-vessel (6)
- 9 Match statistician (6)
- 10 Act out part (4-4)
- 11 Yield (7,5)
- 13 Cinema film (5)
- 14 Of the Eastern Roman Empire (9)
- 17 Detailed route (9)
- 19 Veracity (5)
- 21 Straight off (4,4,4)
- 24 Easily bent (8)
- 25 Stone table (6)
- 26 Newsgroups worldwide (6)
- 27 Very high (8)

DOWN

- 2 Scottish lake (4)
- 3 Capital of Crete (9)
- 4 Three-masted vessel (6)
- 5 Underjailer (7)
- 6 Blind alley (3-2-3)
- 7 City in North Yorkshire (5)
- 8 Religious brotherhood (10)
- 12 Iron grating (10)
- 15 Strangler (9)
- 16 Flying-fox (5-3)
- 18 Vote for again (2-5)
- 20 Do wash (anag.) (6)
- 22 One from SW USA (5)
- 23 Thin (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No121****EASY****MEDIUM****HARD**

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No121

ACROSS: 1 Squashy 5 Wheyish 9 Saki 10 Sacramental 12 Commando 13 End-all 14 Transforming 17 Torch battery 21 Gnomes 23 Toll road 24 Editorship 25 Lazy 26 Epitome 27 New York. **DOWN:** 2 Quahog 3 Axiomatic 4 Hosanna 6 Heave ho 7 Yield 8 Setting 11 Cross-stitch 15 Majority 16 Joined-up 18 Buckram 19 Ellipse 20 Panzer 22 Motet.

QUICK SOLUTION No122

10 Furtive 11 Kneadable 13 Mover 14 Role-play 15 Knuckle under 16 Shallow 17 Banzai 18 Zestful 19 Thith 21 Just like 22 Flexible 25 Dismen 26 Queenet 27 Twisting 28 Motif 29 Flexibl 30 Motif 31 Trottier 32 Baritone 5 mukay 6 Ulud-de-set 7 Roon 8 Fleatmetry 12 Pottoilis 15 Trifotter 16 Furtive 17 Tintinnate 18 Re-elephant 20 Shadow 22

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

BROTHERS (15)



In Jim Sheridan's remake of Danish drama Brodrer, two siblings are divided by their bond to the same woman. Tobey Maguire is a soldier whose mental wounds threaten to tear his family apart.

SEX & DRUGS & ROCK & ROLL (15)



Distinguished by an incendiary lead performance from Andy Serkis, Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll is a biopic of 1970s punk pioneer Ian Dury that is as unconventional and fantastical as the man himself.

UP IN THE AIR (15)



George Clooney plays a loveless man who earns his living by flying around America and making total strangers redundant in Jason Reitman's comedy drama.

Clive drops the act to show who's the daddy

■ BY SHEREEN LOW

CLIVE Owen has attracted thousands of female fans by smouldering his way through films such as Closer, Sin City and Duplicity. Yet his own girls are keen to see him play a new kind of role.

The 45-year-old star says his daughters Hannah and Eve would like him do more family-friendly roles.

"They're very keen for me to do a film to give them bragging rights at school," he laughs.

Owen's latest film, The Boys Are Back, is a step in that direction.

In the drama, based on journalist Simon Carr's memoirs and shot in Australia, Owen plays Joe Warr, who struggles with being a single parent to his six-year-old son after his wife dies of cancer.

The 45-year-old admits his own experience of fatherhood was "a huge part of wanting to do the film".

"I'm a parent and it's a big part of my life. I recognised I had similar experiences to a lot of things in this movie, so it felt familiar," he says.

Besides its appeal as a more family-focused drama, it was really the script that captured Owen's imagination.

"It's a beautiful script. I thought it was unusual in its delicacy and intelligence in exploring these relationships, and a beautiful exploration of both grief and parenting."

He adds: "It wasn't sentimental, it was precise. I found it terribly moving when I got to the scene where Joe was telling his son that his mother might not be around much longer. I found the whole conversation upsetting."

The Coventry-born actor made it clear to



FATHERHOOD: Clive Owen takes on a more caring role

director Scott Hicks that he wanted a film steeped in reality.

"I'd seen lots of family movies where the family is in this lovely, warm bubble, and even when things get tough, it's all very sweet.

"Real families aren't like that – it's much more volatile than that and this script explored that in a very honest way," he says.

Owen, married to wife Sarah-Jane, brought his real-life experiences as a dad into the role.

"I didn't have the huge, tragic loss that they have, but in terms of the ups and downs of parenting, I felt I've experienced quite a few of them," he says.

"I was interested in the scenes showing the tougher times in the film, for example when

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the kid has a tantrum in the car. I could relate to that scene and I was interested to make that tough for my character because all parents will relate."

The Boys Are Back follows Joe as he gets to grips with parenthood and adopts his own way of parenting.

In one scene, he allows his son to ride on the bonnet of the car as they drive along Australia's Aldinga Beach.

"Those scenes tend to split people – some people say it's very irresponsible and others think it looks like fantastic fun.

"The film isn't advocating this way of parenting, it's saying this is this guy's approach to it. It's not about being responsible or irresponsible, it's trying to get their lives back on track."

THE BOYS ARE BACK Certificate 12A

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WOMEN seeking men

MAKE IT LAST Slim female, 25, 5'10", long brown hair and blue eyes, caring and social, likes clubs, cinemas, seeking a kind male, 30-45 for a relationship. Box 461558 **T**

MATCH OF THE DAY! Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5'12", a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **T**

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT... Eye-bleu blonde, 27, 5'5", loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, my time! Looking for a honest guy with GOSH, to get to know. Box 880105 **T**

LOOKIN' A GUY WHO'S EASY ON THE EYES! 25y old female, 5'8", medium-curvy build, N/S, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, WLTM tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship, maybe LTR. Box 442644 **T**

FANCY A CUPPLE? Loving single mum, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5'5", slim and sexy part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 464326 **T**

SOUND GOOD? Social lady, 29, likes walks, swimming, vgosh, like to meet a man, 30-55 for lots of fun. Brighton. Box 463984 **T**

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTM cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life, with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879931 **T**

COULD I BE THE ONE? Single mom, 33, divorced, looking to meet a male who enjoys walks, going out, time in and out and much more. Maidstone. Box 464835 **T**

A FAIRYTALE ENDING! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5'8", short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **T**

HORSES FOR COURSES... Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for dating, loving relationship. Box 384013 **T**

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **T**

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 5'5", fit 5'13", shoulder length curly hair, enjoys eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possibly some long term relationship. Box 453039 **T**

SEALED WITH A KISS Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mom, enjoys holidays, wiring and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453078 **T**

STARRY NIGHTS Hello I'm Sarah, single mom from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best thing in life. Box 878378

GROW OLD WITH ME Single mom, 37yrs old, slim build, honest, kind and caring, I'm looking for LTR, love and romance with nice guy in Maidstone area. Box 860164 **T**

SEIZE THE DAY Loving female, 36, 5'4", brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **T**

LOVE TO LOVE Lovely female, 36, 5'4", likes football, socialising, cinema, and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male for a LTR. Ashford. Box 460968 **T**

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but once-known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love. Box 451145 **T**

TAKE A LITTLE TIME Social lady, 41, 5'3", gosh, likes family life, going out, cinema, walks, staying in, seeking a fun male for company. Sheerness. Box 461145 **T**

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LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5'10", likes bowling, eating in/out etc, looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gosh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 **T**

ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 466380 **T**

ETERNALLY YOURS Enjoying woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5'2", medium build, WLTM genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 448793 **T**

DOS THIS SOUND LIKE YOU? Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5'9", dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5ft+9. Box 461129 **T**

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Audrey here, I live in Seaford, and WLTM caring man. I'm fun loving, loyal, adventurous, and love animals, cooking, music, film, countryside. Box 872159 **T**

STAY TRUE Attractive, curly, single mum, size 18, 44, kind, genuine, 55", 5'10", loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 461830 **T**

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blondie lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing, looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458665 **T**

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty, blonde female, 38, 5'14", like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684 **T**

AN AFRICAN DIAMOND 38yr old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446767 **T**

MAKING IT HAPPEN Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5'9", dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving gent, 5ft+9. Box 461129 **T**

LOVE & HONOUR Petal, slim, 25, red hair/green eyes, 5'10", 5'11", 5'12", 5'13", 5'14", 5'15", 5'16", 5'17", 5'18", 5'19", 5'20", 5'21", 5'22", 5'23", 5'24", 5'25", 5'26", 5'27", 5'28", 5'29", 5'30", 5'31", 5'32", 5'33", 5'34", 5'35", 5'36", 5'37", 5'38", 5'39", 5'40", 5'41", 5'42", 5'43", 5'44", 5'45", 5'46", 5'47", 5'48", 5'49", 5'50", 5'51", 5'52", 5'53", 5'54", 5'55", 5'56", 5'57", 5'58", 5'59", 5'60", 5'61", 5'62", 5'63", 5'64", 5'65", 5'66", 5'67", 5'68", 5'69", 5'70", 5'71", 5'72", 5'73", 5'74", 5'75", 5'76", 5'77", 5'78", 5'79", 5'80", 5'81", 5'82", 5'83", 5'84", 5'85", 5'86", 5'87", 5'88", 5'89", 5'90", 5'91", 5'92", 5'93", 5'94", 5'95", 5'96", 5'97", 5'98", 5'99", 5'100", 5'101", 5'102", 5'103", 5'104", 5'105", 5'106", 5'107", 5'108", 5'109", 5'110", 5'111", 5'112", 5'113", 5'114", 5'115", 5'116", 5'117", 5'118", 5'119", 5'120", 5'121", 5'122", 5'123", 5'124", 5'125", 5'126", 5'127", 5'128", 5'129", 5'130", 5'131", 5'132", 5'133", 5'134", 5'135", 5'136", 5'137", 5'138", 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PROPERTY NEWS

Dream of home owning may never come true

AN independent housing body has advised that future homebuyers could face average house prices that are 10 times their salary.

Buying a home could become unattainable unless the number of homes being built increases.

A study from new National Housing and Planning Advice Unit said a fifth of non-homeowners think it will take them at least five years before they're able to buy and more than a third believe they will never get onto the property ladder.

The NHPAU was set up by the Government to provide independent advice on improving housing market affordability. Government statistics illustrate that in the year 2000, the average cost of a home was four times the annual salary.

However, by 2006, house price increases meant that homebuyers were looking at seven times their salary.

The demand for housing is on the increase and something must be done or the pressure on the market will only deteriorate. On a further study of 2,700 UK adults, NHPAU discovered the majority states the government need to take action to make housing more affordable.

The mortgage lending market still 'restrained'

THE Council of Mortgage Lenders has revealed that the number of home loans approved for house purchase fell four per cent in November compared with the previous month.

According to the CML, there were 53,000 mortgages granted to buyers, a fall on October but this was due to a "seasonal dip".

However, the CML did highlight that the figures were still 66 per cent higher than in November 2008.

Remortgaging activity continued to remain at low levels, as a result of the low interest rate environment, said the CML.

The Council added that first-time buyers were still having to put down a hefty deposit of 25 per cent but with interest rates still remaining at the historic low of 0.5 percent, mortgage interest payments are so affordable for homemovers and first-time buyers.

However, the CML's director general Michael Coogan said: "With substantial deposits still needed to secure a mortgage, the market will continue to be relatively restrained for some time to come."



THEY'RE IN THE MONEY: Overall in 2009 landlords were £12,700 in the black, almost reversing £15,000 losses in 2008 and 2010 is set to see higher returns than 2009

Landlords look forward to profitable returns

THE buy-to-let property market in the UK is looking forward to a promising 2010 after strong returns combined with low arrears made 2009 much better than expected.

Overall in 2009 landlords were £12,700 in the black, almost reversing £15,000 losses in 2008 and 2010 is set to see higher returns than 2009, according to the latest Buy to Let Index from LSL Property Services, the UK's largest residential letting agents.

It also shows that although increases in property values and a recent slight drop in rents caused dip in yields, tenant arrears performed strongly in 2009, contrary to expectations, and landlords enjoyed a 7.6 per cent annual return on their investments by the end

■ BY NICK AMES

of December 2009.

The value of their properties rose three per cent in the year while rental income after void periods added a further 4.6 per cent. This means that in 2009 a typical landlord made a return of £12,740. This was a combination of modest capital gains of £4,831 on each property and £7,909 in rental income.

By contrast, in 2008, a typical landlord would have lost 8.8 per cent even after allowing for rental income. They lost £23,000 in capital as the property fell in value, and earned £7,900 in rent for the full year, leading to a total loss of £15,100.

"Despite the worst recession in living memo-

ry, and despite house prices continuing to fall for the first few months of 2009, investment returns in buy-to-let were very respectable.

"The £12,700 the average landlord made on a rented property during the year recouped most of the losses in the housing crash of 2008. Brave landlords who added to their portfolios will be celebrating an excellent year," said David Brown, commercial director of LSL Property Services.

Rents ended 2009 0.2 per cent higher than the previous year.

"Landlords must not lose sight of rental income when house prices move up, however. Rents should form the foundation of buy-to-let investment and are key to financing mortgage borrowings. Allowing yields to drop too low is inadvisable," added Mr Brown.

RICS predicts further house price rises at beginning of 2010

THE Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) has reported that house price growth slowed in December.

Almost one third of surveyors reported price gains than falls during the month. However, the positive balance was lower than in the previous two months.

RICS did point out that a shortage of properties on the market is continuing to drive up house prices and it is predicting further gains in the early part of this year

but this will be followed by modest falls in the latter half of the year, resulting in a small overall rise of one to two per cent.

Many other experts are predicting house prices will be flat over the course of the next 12 months as a result of the current economic uncertainty.

RICS spokesman Jeremy Leaf said: "The recent loss of momentum in prices and the moderation in new buyer interest can be in part attributed to the housing

market pulling down its shutters for Christmas.

"It is likely the new year will see more interest and activity in the market as those who held back start to market their property with renewed optimism," added Mr Leaf.

Many analysts were surprised by the strength in house prices last year. RICS said house prices rose for the seventh consecutive month in December.

This corresponded with many

other house price indices with the Halifax reporting that prices were 1.1 per cent higher in December compared with a year ago – the first annual rise since March 2008.

Meanwhile, RICS said seven out of 12 regions showed price increases in the past three months, while the remainder experienced falls. The biggest gains were experienced in London and the southeast of England.

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- No Onward Chain

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- 4 Bedroom Detached House
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- Study, Dining Room, No Onward Chain

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- Off Road Parking, No Onward Chain

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Faversham OIEO £140,000

Two bedroom Grade II listed property. benefits from lounge with dining room, fitted kitchen and garden. period features such as open fireplace, cast iron stove, and cellar room.

Faversham Office

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Aylesham £155,000

Three bedroom terrace house. Accommodation entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, utility room and conservatory to the ground floor, with the first floor offering shower room.

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Sturry OIEO £200,000

1930's three bedroom semi detached house, three reception rooms, double glazing, off road parking for two vehicles.

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Faversham OIEO £110,000

One bedroom first floor flat close to town centre and local amenities. Allocated parking. Communal garden.

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Canterbury £215,000

Two bedroom semi detached bungalow. No chain. Garage. Conservatory.

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Faversham £125,000

Well presented two bedroom apartment which benefits from an fitted kitchen, Updated bathroom with roll top bath and shower cubicle, lounge with exposed wood floor and a garage.

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Faversham £135,000

Located in central Faversham is this one bedroom retirement apartment. The property is well presented and has the safety of being gated. Communal gardens and laundry areas.

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Dunkirk £375,000

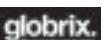
Well presented four bedroom detached house. Lounge with Oak flooring. Dining room. Fitted kitchen with utility room and cloakroom. En-suite and family bathroom. Two garages.

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Hersden

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- Gas fired central heating
- Allocated parking for two cars

OIEO £169,995

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- Guide Price £450k to 500k**
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Staple

- Four bedroom detached house
 - Dining room, study, utility room
 - Self-contained annexe
- OIEO £330,000**
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Chartham

- Four bedroom detached property
 - Two receptions, utility, cloakroom,
 - Cellar and kitchen/diner. bathroom.
- £280,000**
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- Three bedroom semi detached
 - Lounge, kitchen, dining room
 - Downstairs W/C and bathroom
- OIEO £215,000**
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Adisham

- Two bedroom semi-detached house
 - Kitchen/dining room, conservatory
 - Garage, off road parking for several cars
- Guide Price £165k to 185k**
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- Five bedroom detached
 - Great location. GFCH
 - Double garage
- OIEO £350,000**
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Blean

- Four bedroom semi detached
 - Lounge/dining area, kitchen
 - Study and family bathroom
- £299,995**
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 - Lounge, dining area, kitchen
 - Conservatory and bathroom
- OIEO £220,000**
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- Four bedroom bungalow
 - Lounge, bathroom, kitchen/diner
 - Offered for sale with No chain
- OIEO £200,000**
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Littlebourne

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£91,000

Warden assisted apartment with lounge with feature fireplace, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms.

Aylesham



£125,000

Modern two bedroom terraced house that has been improved by the present vendors. Gas central heating.

Petham



£129,995

L-shaped lounge/diner, garden, kitchen with integral appliances, two bedrooms, en-suite and bathroom.

Hersden



£154,995

Two bedroom property. Lounge, kitchen/diner and conservatory, bathroom and garden.

Chartham



£189,950

modern detached family home established gardens. split level with the lounge on the first floor.

Wingham



£259,950

older style semi detached with gas central heating, gardens leading to garage/workshop with inspection pit.

Canterbury



£275,000

3 bedroom ground floor apartment in St. Dunstans. Central heating, double glazing, fitted kitchen, lounge/diner, ensuite and bathroom.

Adisham



£299,995

Detached period cottage style home complete with Inglenook fireplace, some exposed timbers/beams & with established gardens.

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£415,000

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**SOUTH CANTERBURY OIEO £200,000**

Superb ground floor apartment set within an exclusive development. Lounge/diner, luxury fitted kitchen, contemporary styled bathroom, two bedrooms, communal gardens, allocated parking and no chain.

**CANTERBURY OIEO £285,000**

The property requires internal refurbishment, however, does offer generously sized accommodation. Lounge, study, dining room, kitchen, cloakroom, bathroom, shower room, four bedrooms and nursery room.

**WINCHEAP £235,000**

Larger than average three bedroom end of terrace. Excellent condition with lounge, dining room, study, fitted kitchen with appliances, utility room, bathroom, south facing garden with parking for two cars.

**SOUTH CANTERBURY £140,000**

Three double bedroom purpose built flat, potential investment opportunity, gas fired central heating, double glazing, lounge, kitchen, fitted bathroom, separate WC and no chain involved.

**AYLESHAM £115,500**

Immaculate two bedroom home, through lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, modern fitted bathroom, gas fired central heating, UPVC double glazing, ideal starter home or investment.

**UPPER HARBLEDOWN £184,995**

Generously sized period cottage, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, large fitted bathroom, enviable location, only a short distance from the City Centre and no forward chain involved.

**UPSTREET £139,000**

A two bedroom newly refurbished terraced cottage. The property comprises kitchen/diner, lounge, utility room, one en suite, bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing and off road parking.

**LITTLEBOURNE £215,000**

Large four bedroom cottage with a wealth of character boasting heavy oak beams, timber panelling, large inglenook fireplace, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, family bathroom, rewired, cellar, garage.

**ST DUNSTANS £325,000**

City Centre penthouse apartment 1900 sq.ft. with three bedrooms, two en suites, luxury family bathroom, stylish fitted kitchen with appliances, outstanding views, secure allocated parking, no chain involved.

**ROUGH COMMON £279,995**

Detached bungalow recently updated with new kitchen, bathroom, decoration and carpets. Three bedrooms, lounge, conservatory, utility room, gas fired central heating, garage, large south facing rear garden.

**STURRY £150,000**

Purpose built ground floor apartment, lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom, two double bedrooms, gas fired central heating, double glazing, own garden and parking. No chain involved.

**CANTERBURY £380,000**

Investment opportunity close to City Centre. Currently used as a licensed bar and up until recently benefitting from planning permission (expired May 2009) to one retail unit and seven studio flats.

**BARHAM OIEO £375,000**

Exceptional Grade II listed detached period cottage. The accommodation comprising lounge, drawing room, study, split level kitchen, cellar, four bedrooms, bathroom, gas fired central heating.

**CHARTHAM OIEO £100,000**

One bed period cottage full of character and charm. Undergone major improvement including brand new fitted kitchen, shower suite, all new flooring and carpets and redecoration. No Chain.

**STURRY £235,000**

Modernised four bedroom semi detached family home, lounge, cloakroom, fitted kitchen, well appointed bathroom, gas fired central heating, UPVC double glazing, gardens, garage.

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**UPSTREET £289,950 each**

Outstanding new development. Detached 3 bedrooms, bathroom, separate en-suite, 2 reception rooms, country style fitted kitchens with appliances, double garages, gardens, excellent finish, NHBC guarantee.

**ST DUNSTANS £205,000**

Investment opportunity close to rail station with own parking, two bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom, separate shower room, fitted kitchen, good order, great location and no chain involved.

**BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN £315,000**

Outstanding detached bungalow. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, 'L' shaped lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, utility room, superb condition throughout, landscaped gardens with hot tub and chalet/working office.

**CHARTHAM £170,000**

Outstanding new build first floor apartment. Open plan lounge and fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, main bathroom and separate en suite, top quality flooring, central heating, designer furniture to remain, NHBC guarantee.

**CHARTHAM £129,995**

Generously sized two bedroom purpose built apartment, lounge, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing, well decorated, garden and parking.

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GARAGE	£10,000	PETT BOTTOM	£339,995	CANTERBURY	£235,000	CANTERBURY	£182,500	CANTERBURY	£299,950	Nr City Centre	£195,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Location Lock up Garage Available Up and Over Door NO CHAIN !!!! 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Bedroom Semi Detached 142 ft Front Garden Driveway and Garage 2/3 Reception Rooms 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached Bungalow Three Bedrooms Gas Central Heating Double Glazing, Garage 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very Stylish Mews Apartment Two Bedrooms Open Plan Living Garden, Garage 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two / Three Bedroom Bungalow Detached Parking Delightful Rear Garden 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Bedroom Period Property End Of Terrace Garage Great Location 	

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STURRY	£1,200PCM	CANTERBURY	£1,200PCM	CANTERBURY	£1,200PCM	CANTERBURY	£1,200PCM
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MOTORS NEWS



Alfa's sporty economy

SPORTING credentials should not bar you from being environmentally-aware – that's the message from Italy's Alfa Romeo. And it follows the launch of new 'Multiair' engines (from £15,165) now offered in the popular MiTo supermini line-up, including a 170bhp 1.4 MultiAir Cloverleaf performance flagship (£17,895) that can sprint from 0-62mph in 7.5 seconds yet average at least 45mpg while generating much lower CO2 emissions.

All Multiair models come with 'Start and Stop' technology too, which cuts and then automatically re-starts the engine at the traffic lights.



Merc estate showing its 'crammability' class

ONE of the classic quality load-luggers is now available in new generation guise – the Mercedes-Benz E-Class Estate (from £29,785).

It can also be bought with an engine generating as little as 150g/km of CO2 from its exhaust pipe and capable of averaging nearly 50mpg.

'Crammability' is as good as ever with self-levelling rear suspension as standard and a load space claimed to be best in class. Rear seats can be folded down using just one finger says M-B.



Octavia's new options

SKODA'S popular Octavia model has gained two attractions – an ultra-frugal/low-emission 1.2-litre turbo petrol engine and an economical diesel with DSG gearbox.

The former (from £12,935) underlines a trend towards leaner and cleaner small capacity petrol units, while the latter brings the ultra-flexible double-clutch auto (and manual) DSG to the Octavia's 1.6-litre diesel unit.

The VW-owned Czech marque offers the DSG on the small petrol engine too for extra flexibility and all of these new options can be bought in either Octavia hatch or estate form.



SHOOTING FOR THE TOP: Audi's latest A4 is a truly fine car, longer than previous versions with the biggest boot in its class and comes with front wheel and all-wheel drive

Audi continues drive to the top with its new A4

ROAD TEST AUDI A4

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

dyne. Whatever the mood, the A4 is so in tune that it slips into the background.

Our road test car was the best-selling A4 2.0 TDI, almost as much of a darling to company car user choosers as the ubiquitous BMW 320d.

In the lower output 120PS (118bhp) SE form as tested (£23,720), it is probably a tad under-powered for the scale of the A4 – there are 143 and 170PS versions – but the ability to average nearly 60mpg is not to be sneered at.

It benefits from a tidy six-speed gearshift, crisp steering and excellent grip and composure in the corners; ride quality is considerably better than the previous car, no doubt helped by the bigger stretch between front and back wheels.

The cabin has the material and ergonomic layout design quality that has made Audi the benchmark brand in its sector.

Needless to say, space and comfort for all is impressive too, although the middle rear seat passenger has to plant his/her feet awkwardly either side of the centre hump.

This accomplished all-rounder may be a hard car to love outright, but it's hard to fault too.



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OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FORD MONDEO



ONCE the UK's favourite car, its fall from favour reflects changing tastes rather than the Mondeo's ability. The car's greatest weakness has been the bonnet badge – something the current generation car tries to overcome with Germanic quality and detail. Nevertheless, the previous car was well-built, superb to drive and incredibly spacious. Apart from the best-selling hatchback there is a saloon and one of the roomiest and best-looking estates in the sector.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

FAMILY CARS

THIS sector used to dominate the UK car market, but sales have been eroded by new categories such as the 4x4 sports utility vehicle and MPV and encroachment by upmarket compact executive models like the BMW 3-Series, which outsells Ford's former UK market leader, the Mondeo, in some months. Nevertheless, many second-hand car buyers still like the idea of a spacious, comfortable and more conventional family runabout and prices can be very affordable, so here are three popular and contrasting sellers based on ability and value.

CITROEN C5



CITROEN'S latest C5 is a stunner inside and out and lives up to ads suggesting that 'the Germans' may be worried. The old car was less of a threat, but never mind the looks – look at the prices. The original C5 has actually proved to be a reliable and great value used buy, with a pliant ride and loads of space; the estate is enormous for anyone needing to cart lots of stuff and diesels are the star buy.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VW PASSAT



VW'S previous Passat set a higher benchmark for quality and the new version raised the bar again. The German giant knows the best way to counter upmarket rivals, including sister marque Audi, was by upping the standard of the overall package, so the new Passat is more spacious, drives better than previous models and looks good. Factor in some of the best engines, petrol or diesel, choice of saloon or capacious estate, plus modest used prices and it looks irresistible.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

Fancy a new set of wheels?



CarsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find a car in the County

POWERED BY KOS MEDIA



Four Wheel Drive Auction
Also including Diesel and MPV Cars

Wednesday 3rd February at 6.30pm

Entries Invited...

Four Wheel Drive prices are extremely strong at the moment, and with our huge rural data base throughout the South East and 100's of buyers at every sale, there has never been a better time to sell.

**Do you want to
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It's really quick and easy, exciting too!

Everybody's doing it!

All major credit cards accepted!

Open to the trade and the public!

"The simple way to buy or sell."

Commercial Vehicle Auctions

Thursday 4th February 3.00pm

& Thursday 18th February 3.00pm

Then Fortnightly on Thursdays at 3.00pm

Approx 50 light vans and pick ups

A well attended and popular fortnightly sale

A selection of entries from Local Authorities, Local Companies, Main Dealerships & Others

Entries Invited

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SATURDAY FOR ENTRIES**

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www.hobbsparker.co.uk/cars 01233 506266

VAUXHALL 1.6 PETROL ASTRA SXI



3 DOOR OFFICIAL FACTORY FITTED BODY KIT, 27,000 MILES, MANUAL, ABS, A/C, FSH, E/W, MULTI FUNCTIONAL MUSIC PLAYER, HEATED FR & BK W/SCREEN & MIRRORS, MULTIFUNCTIONAL COMPUTER, LOWERED SPORT SUSPENSION, 16" ALLOY WHEELS.

07856 724166

£7,495

ALFA ROMEO

BRERA JTS SV, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid sunroof, grey, 34438 miles, £12900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRERA JTDm (210), 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering red, 13968 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, 1.4, 2001, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint twin airbags remote central locking, black, 66439 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A2, 1.4, 2001, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint twin airbags remote central locking, black, 66439 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

Berlingo, 1.6 HDi 90hp L1 625 X van, 2009, white, 5000 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, gold, 50 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C2, SX, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering blue, 24000 miles, £2600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, Sportback, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering seats trip computer remote central locking, silver, 15100 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 1.8, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering seats trip computer remote central locking, silver, 15100 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BMW

1 Series, 120d ES, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, black, 38500 miles, £10500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

Stilo, 16v, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £8400, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120d ES, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, black, 38500 miles, £10500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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TELEPHONE US ON: 01303 817040 **FAX US ON:** 01303 817004

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Senior & General Appointments 45-48

SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR

We are a Ramsgate based private school providing English courses for adult international students throughout the year and summer junior courses at other UK locations

You will have the relevant experience and proven skills to develop and execute new marketing strategies to win profitable business. You will be a passionate sales negotiator willing to undertake significant overseas travel. Excellent leadership, teamwork and communication skills are a must. This is a senior position with a generous remuneration package tailored to attract the best.

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Deborah.Cook@churchillhouse.co.uk

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6 weeks ago we advertised probably the BEST job ever.

The lucky candidates are now making in excess of £700+ pw OTE. We now need 5 more. If you have a car and phone, call for more info -

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No experience necessary as full training can be provided.

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Require

Sous Chef and Wait Staff

Must be able to work weekends

Please send your CV to

Email: info@age&sons.co.uk

Thanet is a beautiful place to work



Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

Committee Services Manager

Salary £29,895 to £35,007 per annum

Under the guidance of the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, this post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee and scrutiny services, and will contribute to relevant projects, such as the updating of the Council's constitution and the development of a Member learning & development strategy. Applicants need to be educated to degree level and have considerable experience of committee and scrutiny services, including management experience.

Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

Salary £26,940 to £30,738 per annum

This post provides an exciting opportunity for someone with an interest in policy review, because roughly half of the time the post holder will support the Council's overview and scrutiny function. That involves bringing together the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel investigating local issues, the Cabinet Members that take the decisions and the Directors that advise them. A mature approach to undertaking the work is essential, to ensure the scrutiny role adds value to the Council's achievements. The remainder of the time the post holder will provide more general support to some of the Council's other committees, arranging and attending meetings, and taking minutes. Applicants need to be educated to degree level or equivalent.

The closing date for both positions is: Friday 12 February 2010

Interviews will be held: Tuesday 2 or Wednesday 3 March 2010

For an informal discussion about both positions, please contact Glenn Back on 01843 577187

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working, a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk or, download an application form from www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs. Applications to be returned to: East Kent H R Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield. Dover CT16 3PJ

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.

New Year, New Challenge

MidKent College have exciting one year seconddment opportunities for the following positions:

Assistant Principal (£63k) negotiable subject to experience.

Head of Faculty (£46k) negotiable subject to experience.

Teacher Coach (£33k) negotiable subject to experience.

MidKent College is a large, successful FE College operating on two main campuses in Medway and Maidstone. Our state of the art, £86 million Medway campus is next door to the Royal School of Military Engineering where the College is training all their soldiers in Construction & Engineering under a 30-year contract.

Our recent OFSTED Inspection described the College as 'good' overall with 'outstanding' capacity to improve. We would like to accelerate our improvement agenda by seconding individuals who will relish the chance to undertake a specific improvement project within the College in areas such as A levels, Skills for Life, Construction, Engineering, Teaching and Learning. Whether you are already in FE, working in a school or Sixth Form College, or working elsewhere in education, this is an ideal opportunity to develop your skills in a supportive environment working alongside some high quality senior leaders.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups and will meet reasonable living expenses for staff who live outside the area.

The roles above are the indicative levels that we seek seconddments at. There is, however, some scope for flexibility for high calibre individuals who can help us on our journey to be "outstanding"!

If you are interested in knowing more please contact our retained consultant Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 or by email ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk



MidKent College

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Opus Care require:

**A Deputy Manager - RGN
A Unit Manager - RGN
F/T & P/T RGNs (Days & Nights)**

For full details, telephone
The Manager, Julie Caine on
01233 643555

Faversham Residential Home

requires
Care Assistants

to work on rota basis

Also required

Weekend Domestic

9am - 2pm

For further details please telephone
01795 532629 between 10am - 4pm

Chart Hills Golf Club

Biddenden

Require a

Chef de Partie

To become part of the team at this celebrated golf course.

Excellent rates of pay for the right candidate
and accommodation available if required.

Apply in the first instance, with CV and covering letter

Head Chef Jason Wearne,

Email: kitchen@charthills.co.uk

Or by post

Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane, Biddenden, Kent, TN27 8JX





EXPERIENCE CAR SALES EXECUTIVE

Based in Maidstone

Whitehouse Maidstone Chrysler Jeep and Hyundai dealership, is looking for an experienced car sales executive with proven track record in the motor trade.

A competitive salary is offered together with on target bonus, company vehicle and 22 days holiday per annum.

To apply or for more information call
Mark Wood on markwood@whitehousegroup.co.uk
or send your CV to
Whitehouse Maidstone, 1-17 The Broadway, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8QX

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

**£15-£18K basic salary + bonus
(Near Ashford)**

Support local produce? Want to get involved with a fast growing environmentally friendly business? Love the internet?

This is an exciting opportunity to join a fast growing online consumer business Food for Kent. Due to the current rapid expansion of Food for Kent and its online home retail business we are recruiting a marketing executive to support our ongoing operations in Aldington, nr Ashford.

We deliver high quality locally sourced food across Kent and London and require a dynamic professional to help our business grow to the next stage.

The successful candidate will play a key role in coordinating and delivering the marketing strategy, managing online content, customer communication and analysis.

The ideal candidate will ideally have:-

- 1 years marketing experience
- Excellent communication skills
- A high level of computer literacy

**This really is an exciting time to join a progressive, forward thinking company.
Apply now in writing to info@foodforkent.co.uk**

Closing date for applications 30st January 2009.

**CANDY CARRIERS**

Require

Business Development Co-ordinator**Specialising in the Worldwide Delivery Market**

An ideal opportunity for an experienced sales professional whose knowledge of the International import and export industry through air, road or sea freight, now seeking a new challenge by utilising their skills in creating and developing new services within our business.

The role will demand an organised, efficient, motivated individual who is able to be creative, supervise, liaise and generate growth from existing and potential new clients. Drawing from previous experience the development of new routes and outlets for these high quality services will be within the role.

Working within a small sales team the position will be a combination of field and office based duties where liaison with suppliers and clients will need the benefit of operational and IT experience.

The candidate should be articulate with good communication skills, along with the experience and ability to negotiate contracts and meet financial targets creating increased profitability.

All applications should be accompanied by a full CV outlining relevant experience, salary and benefit expectations to fulfill this position and forwarded to:

Mr Andrew Dixon

Candy Carriers

Unit F3 Broadoak Enterprise Village

Broadoak Road

Sittingbourne

Kent ME9 8AQ

Thomas MOT Technician

required for local Fuel Injection Garage
We are seeking a qualified technician with proven experience to undertake the following:

**MOT Testing
Vehicle Servicing
Diagnostics and subsequent repairs
Clean current driving licence required
Basic IT skills required**

Working hours:
Mon- Fri - 8.00 to 5.00
Sat morning 8.00 to 12.00 (1 off per month)
Contact: kathy@thomasautos.co.uk

Housekeeper

A professional couple based in central Tunbridge Wells require a reliable and trustworthy housekeeper to work for 10-12 hours per week covering the following duties:

- General cleaning and housework
- Washing and ironing
- Dry cleaning drop off/collection
- Food shopping

If you are interested in this role please send a letter explaining why you feel you would be suited to the role to ask@hradvise.me or write to HR Advise Me Ltd, 15-17 Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells. TN1 1EN.

Competitive rate of pay offered, working hours to be agreed.

the school Malling

Beech Road, East Malling, Kent, ME19 6DH 01732 840995

MPS Teacher + SEN 1

Enthusiastic, innovative teacher to join dedicated, supportive staff of Tydeman Centre within mainstream secondary school.

Ability to teach variety of subjects to small groups with dyslexia, speech & language, autistic spectrum disorders. To deliver individual tutorial programme to small tutor group.

Primary or Secondary experience; interest in Maths, Science or ASDAN advantage. Specialist training offered.

Tydeman Centre 'outstanding' - OFSTED April 2009

Contact Ann Noble to visit.

Further details / forms from career opportunities link on website: www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk

Applications to Elaine Greenwood
elaine.greenwood@mhfederation.co.uk
by Friday 29 January 2010

High Intensity Cognitive Behavioural Therapists

ONE FULL TIME & ONE PART TIME

£29,789 – £39,273 (PRO RATA FOR PART TIME) ESSENTIAL CAR ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,70 PER ANNUM (PRO RATA FOR PART TIME)

37.5 HOURS PER WEEK (FULL TIME) • 26 HOURS PER WEEK (PART TIME)

BASED MEDWAY

KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. We provide a strong departmental framework with regular clinical supervision, line management, monthly team meetings and effective administration and opportunities for further training and career development.

We require two Cognitive Behavioural Therapists to join our Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service within KCA's Psychological Therapy Providers (PTP) team. You will be providing high intensity CBT interventions for a range of common mental health problems. You will also provide line management to a number of Psychological Wellbeing Practitioners as well as an advisory service to IAPT colleagues on matters related to practice and delivery of CBT to individuals accessing the service in line with IAPT guidelines and best practice. The role may include group work, if the post holder is qualified and competent.

A diploma in cognitive behavioural therapy is essential, and the applicant must be accredited, or working towards accreditation with the BABCP. Some evening and weekend work may also be required.

To discuss this post informally please contact the Operations Manager, Kerry Smith on 07779 658886 (Monday to Thursday).

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 630.

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RUNNERS-UP: Natasha Brennan in action last weekend

RUGBY**Ealing too strong for battling Canterbury****Canterbury 5 Ealing 24**

CANTERBURY fought hard but had little answer to slick title-chasing Ealing when the sides met at Merton Lane on Saturday.

Phil Gibson had a rare off day with the boot, missing three penalties and a conversion, but the visitors deserved the points for an efficient display.

The city club conceded 50 points when the sides met earlier in the season, but dug in to avoid a similar-scale defeat. Ealing led 10-0 at half-time thanks to a penalty and converted try, although the margin should have been even closer, with Gibson missing two penalties.

Ealing wrapped the game up with two quick-fire tries around the hour mark, either side of a yellow card for Ed Roche.

Canterbury hit back in the final ten minutes and got the try their pressure merited when Mike Melford kicked ahead and won the race to touch down.

Danny Vaughan's men travel to basement side Bridgwater & Albion on Saturday.

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Indoor success for Canterbury**HOCKEY**

BOTH of Canterbury Hockey Club's top sides enjoyed indoor success last weekend, with the ladies sealing a place at finals weekend and the men winning promotion.

The ladies were well placed after the first-half of the group stage last month. They began the second batch of fixtures, held at Croydon's Whitgift School, in style by ending Slough's 100 per cent record with a 3-0 win.

A narrow 3-2 victory against Olton & West Warwicks followed, while a 7-1 triumph against Trojans put them in contention to win the Premier League for the second successive season. A 4-3 win against Bowdon

Hightown saw them finish with seven wins from eight, but had to settle for second as Slough finished with a better goal difference.

Despite missing out on the trophy it was more than enough to see Canterbury through with the rest of the top four to contest the National Indoor Hockey Championships. The two-day event, which is one of the biggest dates on the domestic calendar, starts in Nottingham on Saturday.

The club's men also performed well and finished top of Division One. Kwan Browne's side won their two opening games a week earlier and picked up where they had left off. Team Bath (6-2), Doncaster (8-3) and Bourneville (6-2) were all swept aside on Saturday.

The title was assured after 8-4 wins against Holcombe and Bowdon on Sunday. Although a 7-4 defeat to Stockport scuppered hopes of finishing with a 100 per cent record, it made no difference as Canterbury made immediate amends for last year's relegation from the top flight.

Gold should have our Kelly's name on it

THIS week we launched a bid to right a wrong – and get Dame Kelly Holmes the gold medal she still craves.

In a campaign we will take to the very top of world athletics, we want drug cheat Regina Jacobs stripped of the gold she won at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in 2003.

She pipped our Kelly into second place – but just weeks later was exposed as a drug cheat; testing positive for steroids.

Now KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, is launching a bid to win our local heroine the title we feel should now be rightfully hers.

Holmes, who won two gold medals at the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004, was beaten into second place at the indoor 1500m event in Birmingham in March, 2003, by Jacobs.

But Jacobs later failed a drugs test after winning at the US Championships in June.

She was handed a four-year ban, but aged 40 at the time, decided to call time on her career. Jacobs, who has always protested her innocence, was stripped of the national title, but because the World Indoors preceded the failed test, the result in Birmingham still stands.

Review

We now urge the sport's governing body – the International Association of Athletics Federations – to review this decision in light of a recent case in which Great Britain's 1997 4x400m relay team were awarded the World title after finishing second to a US team which included Antonio Pettigrew.

He admitted using banned substances at the time and consequently, the GB team found out this month they will get their gold medals after the four athletes began a campaign in 2008.

Holmes, from Hildenborough, near Tonbridge, admits the defeat to an athlete who was later found to be using performance enhancing drugs, still rankles.

"I think [the medal] should be taken away from that athlete if they have been done for drugs," she said. "If they have been caught in that year of competition, well they actually didn't just get caught doing it right there and then did they? It was before that."

"[Regina Jacobs] was somebody who was banned that season and yet she wasn't stripped of the gold medal she won in March of that year and I think that's wrong."

"If you have been banned, give back the medal from that year. She got caught and banned and there's a logic to say that, okay, she got caught in June it's more than likely

**FOOL'S GOLD:** Kelly Holmes can barely hide her contempt as she loses the World Indoor 1500m final to Regina Jacobs in 2003 – Jacobs later failed a drugs test

she was using it in March as well. So then give back the medals, not so much mine, but they should be given back as a general rule."

Eyebrows had been raised six weeks prior to the Birmingham meet when Jacobs, then 39, became the first woman to run 1500 metres in under four minutes indoors, breaking a 13-year world record.

For Holmes, the World Indoor title is one accolade missing from her glittering CV.

"For me, the worst thing was that it was in Birmingham and I would have loved to have stood there as World Indoor champion, but instead I was a silver medallist which is a great achievement, but not when you have

done it against a druggie at the end of the day," she said.

KOS Media will lobby the IAAF to re-examine the case and is urging readers to send in their letters of support to help the campaign.

Sports editor Glenn Pearson said: "We feel this is something that needs looking into and the record should be set straight. Dame Kelly has strong views against the use of drugs in sport and so do we."

"We urge our readers to get involved with our campaign."

• Send letters of support to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, TN25 6SR or by email at sports@kosmedia.co.uk.

Farby on verge of naming Kent's 'mystery spinner'

CRICKET

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

KENT will announce the identity of their 'mystery spinner' for the second half of the season in the next two weeks.

The overseas spinner, who takes over from Australian Stuart Clark for the final half of the summer and will feature in the county's Twenty20 campaign, has a contract from Kent ready to sign and the deal should be completed early next month.

The county's head coach, Paul Farbrace, said: "We hope in the next two weeks to make an announcement. Everything is in place and both sides are very happy with the deal. I have spoken to the player and he has the contract with him and when the time comes he will return it."

Kent's search for additional players to bolster their squad ahead of a return to Division One of the County Championship continues after the club missed out on their original target.

That was not fast bowler Kabir Ali - who ended his deal with Worcestershire a year early before signing for Hampshire last week - according to Farbrace, who says James Tredwell's inclusion in the England squad has now changed their thinking.

The off-spinner was included in the England squad for the Test and one-day series against Bangladesh starting next month. It's conceiv-



ENGLAND PICK: James Tredwell's inclusion in the England squad could leave Kent minus a spinner during the summer

able that he will also be involved when Bangladesh and Pakistan arrive in this country during the summer, leaving Kent without their premier finger spinner.

Farbrace said the club are looking to address that and are now targeting an all-rounder, rather than just a genuine fast bowler, to fill Tredwell's berth at number eight in the Kent line-up.

"Rather than going for an out and out seamer, we are now looking at an all-rounder that can take their share of the bowling and score runs down the order," he said.

"It's important we have people that can make a contribution with the bat and with Treddy potentially being involved with England in the summer, that's what we have got to look at."

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

FOOTBALL



ON TARGET: Rob Lawrence netted on Saturday

Bay aim to clinch second semi spot

HERNE Bay can book a semi-final place for the second time in five days tonight as they host Hythe Town in their Premier Division Cup quarter-final second leg.

Goals from James Turner and David Crofts in the first leg at Reachfields last week put Bay in the driving seat to progress. Manager Simon Halsey felt his side created enough chances in the first leg to decide the tie but is not taking Hythe, who bounced back with a 3-0 win at Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, for granted.

He said: "I'm under no illusions that at 2-0 it's game over. They will come here believing they can do it and I fancy it to be a great game. I'm disappointed we didn't take our chances last week because the tie should be out of sight."

Bay booked their first semi-final spot on Saturday with a 3-1 win against Holmesdale at Winch's Field in the Kent Senior Trophy.

After falling behind early on, the home side gradually imposed themselves on the game, without ever hitting top gear.

Darren Marsden netted a brace either side of Rob Lawrence's well-taken goal on the hour to send Bay through to meet Greenwich Borough.



BRACE: Royston Gough (in green) scored City's goals

Gough strikes help City up to fourth

CANTERBURY City moved up to fourth in the Kent County League Premier Division with a 2-1 win at Orpington on Saturday.

Royston Gough scored both goals to give City their third successive league win - their best form since promotion last summer.

Orpington took the lead against the run of play before the break, but City's dominance eventually paid off. Gough headed in the equaliser before finishing off a fine move to put City in front.

The hosts were deprived of a third when Dave Read headed in from a free-kick which the referee insisted on being retaken.

City host Premier in the Bill Manklow Inter-Regional Challenge Cup at Hersden this Saturday.



DOUBLE: Stuart Vahid (in red) scored twice for Whitstable

minutes but could not find a way past goalkeeper Kevin Fewell.

Whitstable host Chatham Town at the Belmont on Saturday.

LEAGUE TABLES

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH						
P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt	
1 Folkestone Invicta	22	16	5	1	+20	53
2 Worthing	23	14	2	-7	-44	
3 Godalming Town	21	13	3	5	+17	42
4 Croydon Athletic	20	11	6	3	+24	39
5 Fleet Town	22	12	3	7	+14	39
6 Walton & Hersham	23	11	5	7	+6	38
7 Ransgate	22	9	6	7	+5	33
8 Merstham	24	9	6	9	-4	33
9 Chatham Town	24	10	3	11	-8	33
10 Sittingbourne	19	9	4	6	+10	31
11 Dulwich Hamlet	23	7	10	6	+2	31
12 Burgess Hill Town	21	8	6	7	+2	30
13 Horsham YMCA	24	6	10	8	0	28
14 Leatherhead	20	8	3	9	+3	27
15 Whyteleafe	22	8	3	11	+2	27
16 Corinthian-Casuals	22	8	3	11	-6	27
17 Walton Casuals	22	6	5	11	-8	23
18 Metropolitan Police	21	5	7	9	+1	22
19 Chipstead	24	5	6	13	-15	21
20 Whitstable Town	22	6	2	14	-26	20
21 Eastbourne Town	24	3	8	13	-26	17
22 Ashford Town	19	2	6	11	-30	12

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	1 Faversham Town	12	2	2	+26	38
	2 Herne Bay	9	1	3	+13	28
3 Erith & Belvedere	15	9	0	6	+3	27
4 Sevenoaks Town	14	7	3	4	+6	24
5 Beckenham Town	14	7	2	5	+9	23
6 Hythe Town	12	6	4	2	+19	22
7 Tunbridge Wells	17	5	7	5	-1	22
8 Deal Town	14	6	4	4	-2	22
9 Greenwich Borough	14	6	3	5	0	21
10 Sporting Bengal United	16	5	4	7	-12	19
11 Erith Town	12	5	3	4	+6	18
12 Norton Sports	13	5	1	7	-4	16
13 Holmesdale	14	4	1	9	-6	13
14 Fisher	17	3	3	11	-20	12
15 Corinthian	14	2	3	9	-16	9
16 Lordswood	11	0	3	8	-21	3

KENT COUNTY LEAGUE DIVISION ONE EAST

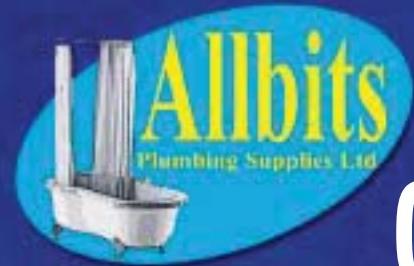
	1 Stansfield & Club	12	3	2	+19	39
	2 Hollands & Blair	10	4	2	+18	34
3 Phoenix Sports	13	9	2	2	+12	29
4 Canterbury City	16	9	1	6	+11	28
5 Rusthall	16	9	1	6	+8	28
6 Sutton Athletic	15	8	3	4	+9	27
7 Fleet Leisure	15	7	4	4	+3	25
8 Bly Spartans	14	7	1	6	+2	22
9 Snodland	16	6	4	6	0	22
10 Bearsted	14	4	5	5	-1	17
11 Tonbridge Invicta	15	4	4	7	-4	16
12 Lewisham Borough	17	5	1	11	-14	16
13 Cray Valley (PM)	14	4	1	9	+1	13
14 Coney Hall	16	4	0	12	-18	12
15 Orpington	17	3	3	11	-19	12
16 Milton & Fulston United	15	3	1	11	-27	10

FIXTURES (Wednesday): Kent League Premier Division Cup quarter-final second leg: Herne Bay (2) v (10) Hythe Town; (Saturday): Ryman One South: Whitstable v Chatham Town; Kent League Premier Division: Sporting Bengal United v Herne Bay; Bill Manlow Cup third round: Canterbury City v Premier

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

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Picture: DAVID MALLINER



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Mr J Clifford, Romford.

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Mrs Gibbs, London.

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